

Arthur Neale

18 Bonner St. E.C.

THE

Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT, AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XXV.—NEW SERIES, No. 1023.]

LONDON : WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7, 1865.

PRICE { UNSTAMPED .. 6d.
{ STAMPED 6d.

THE GENERAL ELECTION.

The FRIENDS of RELIGIOUS EQUALITY are invited to place themselves in communication with the Electoral Committee of the SOCIETY for the LIBERATION of RELIGION from STATE PATRONAGE and CONTROL, of whom information respecting ecclesiastical questions, together with the votes of M.P.'s, may be obtained.

J. CARVELL WILLIAMS, Secretary.
2, Servant's-inn, Fleet-street, London.

HAMPSTEAD.

HEATH - STREET CHAPEL.

The FOURTH ANNIVERSARY of the OPENING will be held (D.V.) on TUESDAY next, 18th June.

The Rev. JOHN EDMOND, D.D., of Highbury, will preach in the Afternoon, at Three o'clock; and the Rev. CHARLES VINCE, of Birmingham, in the Evening, at Half-past Six.

Collections will be made towards the support of Public Worship in this Chapel.

Tea will be provided between the Services in the School-room.

SIXTH ANNIVERSARY of GREVILLE-PLACE-CHURCH, ST. JOHN'S-WOOD.

On the 11th inst. the Rev. THOMAS BINNEY Preaches at 11 a.m.; the Rev. NEWMAN HALL, LL.B., at 3; Dr. TOMKINS at 6.30.

On WEDNESDAY, the 28th inst., a PUBLIC MEETING. Chair at 7 p.m., by the Rev. J. C. GALLAWAY, A.M.

It is hoped the Anniversary will clear off the whole debt on the building.

A FANCY BAZAAR, in aid of the extinction of the DEBT on the CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, LEWISHAM HIGH ROAD (Pastor, Rev. GEORGE MARTIN), will be held in the GROUNDS adjoining STONE HOUSE, on WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, and FRIDAY, 16th, 17th, and 18th of June.

W. ANGERSTEIN, Esq., M.P., has kindly consented to open the Bazaar.

The Band of the Coldstream Guards will be in attendance each day. Open from Two o'clock until Ten—will be lighted at dusk.

Tickets of admission, 1s. each, or 2s. 6d. each for the three days. Children, half-price.

N.B.—The Grounds are situated in the Upper Lewisham-road, about ten minutes' walk from the New Cross Station, on the North and Mid-Kent Railways. Trains are continually running from Charing-cross and London-bridge.

THE INDEPENDENT CHAPEL at OULTON, in NORFOLK, which was erected in 1728, and occupied by a church which had been formed some years before, is now in such a state of dilapidation and decay as to require immediate and entire repair, which according to the contract will amount to 90l.

As the Congregation is composed chiefly of poor people, they can contribute only about 20l.; and this application is made to the friends of religion for help, in the hope that the remainder of the sum will be kindly supplied. An early response is earnestly desired, to enable us to begin while the season is favourable.

(Signed) W. FOX, Pastor.

May 29th, 1865.
We, the Secretaries of the County Association, recommend this case.

JOHN ALEXANDER,
JOHN HALLETT.

Samuel Morley, Esq. ... 25 0 0

THE ASYLUM for FATHERLESS CHILDREN,

REEDHAM, near CROYDON (late at Stamford-hill).

Under the Patronage of Her Majesty the QUEEN.

The GENERAL MEETING and MIDSUMMER ELECTION of this Charity will be held on MONDAY, 19th June, 1865, at the LONDON TAVERN, BISHOPSGATE-STREET, when a report will be presented of the domestic and financial state of the Institution, and the several officers chosen for the ensuing year.

The Board have great pleasure to announce that sixteen children (ten boys and six girls) will be admitted.

The Chair will be taken at Half-past Eleven o'clock. The poll open at Twelve and close at Two o'clock precisely.

The PUBLIC EXAMINATION of the CHILDREN, in the Asylum will be held on TUESDAY, 27th June, at Reedham. Every needed information may be obtained at the Office, 10, Poultry.

T. W. AVELING, Hon. Secretary.

THE ASYLUM for FATHERLESS CHILDREN,

REEDHAM, near CROYDON.

The APPEAL made in the beginning of the year for HELP towards the REMOVAL of the DEBT upon the building has been very kindly and liberally responded to. Last May the debt was 10,800l., since then 2,600l. have been paid off. Promises which, it is believed, will be redeemed this year, to the amount of 5,000l. additional have been given, some of which, however, are contingent on the whole debt being liquidated within twelve months. 5,200l. still are needed to secure these promises, and the significant fact is very earnestly commended to the notice of the Friends of the Charity.

All Drafts, Post-office Orders, &c., should be made payable to Mr. George Staniford, Secretary, and addressed to him at the Office of the Charity, 10, Poultry.

T. W. AVELING, Hon. Secretary.

May 29, 1865.

PARK CHAPEL, GROVE - STREET, CAMDEN-TOWN.

The NEW SCHOOL and LECTURE-ROOMS will be OPENED (D.V.) on the 14th JUNE, 1865, by a Prayer Meeting of the Church and Congregation, to be followed on the 15th by a PUBLIC BREAKFAST, at Half-past Eight o'clock. At which Ed. Baines, Esq., M.P.; Thom. Barnes, Esq., M.P.; J. Chestham, Esq., M.P.; the Rev. Robt. Halley, D.D.; the Rev. Francis Tucker, B.A., and neighbouring Ministers and Friends, are expected to be present. The Rev. J. C. HARRISON will preside. Also by an EVENING MEETING, at which the Rev. J. C. Harrison; Rev. Samuel Martin; Rev. John Stoughton; C. E. Minde, Esq.; Chas. Reed, Esq., F.S.A., and other Friends, are expected. Tea at Six o'clock.

Admission to the Meetings of the 15th, by Tickets only. (Breakfast, 2s. 6d.; Tea, 1s.) To be obtained of Warren Hall and Co., 88, Camden-road, and others.

STATIONERY PRINTING, ACCOUNT BOOKS, and every requisite for the Counting house. Qualities and prices will compare advantageously with any house in the trade. The Forms and Account Books required under "THE COMPANIES' ACT, 1862," kept in stock. Share Certificates Engraved and Printed. Official Seals Designed and Executed.—ASH and FLINT, 49, Fleet-street, City, E.C., and opposite the Railway Stations, London-bridge, S.E.

SEVENOAKS.—To be LET, for a few weeks, a HOUSE, containing Three Sitting-rooms, with Seven Bed-rooms, a walled-in garden, with coach-house and stable. Address, M. J. P., Mrs. Philipot's, Sevenoaks.

MR. PEDLEY, Dentist, 254, Borough, London, has a VACANCY for a PUPIL. Premium 50l., which will be repaid as salary.

WANTED, in a PUBLIC SCHOOL, at close of Midsummer Vacation, TWO ASSISTANT RESIDENT MASTERS, of tried ability and experience; the one for Classics, the other for Mathematics. Salaries liberal. Apply, H. B., office of this Paper.

GOVERNNESS PUPILS.—LADIES' SCHOOL, CLIFTON, BRISTOL.

There will be VACANCIES, after the Midsummer Vac., for TWO YOUNG LADIES who are desirous to be educated as TEACHERS. Every advantage, with the Lessons of Masters, &c., will be open to such in this establishment.

Terms, 50l. per annum inclusive.

Enquiries answered on receipt of stamped envelope, addressed, H. B. S., Post-office, Clifton, Bristol. References required.

BUXTON.—Rev. R. C. JESSOP, B.A., HEAD MASTER.

Terms, &c., on application.

SHIRLEY COLLEGE, NEAR SOUTHAMPTON.

Principal—Rev. JOHN HILL, M.A.

A SOUND ENGLISH AND CLASSICAL EDUCATION,

Preparatory either for

MERCANTILE PURSUITS OR PROFESSIONAL LIFE,

Is combined with all the

THE COMFORTS OF HOME.

The premises are commodious, the rooms lofty and airy, and the situation is one of the most healthy in Hampshire.

Prospectuses on application.

EDUCATIONAL HOME for YOUNG LADIES—MALVERN.

The Principal of a very select establishment, delightfully situate in a most pleasant and healthy part of Worcestershire, desires to receive TWO or THREE YOUNG LADIES on very moderate terms. The pupils receive a very superior education, combined with all the comforts of a home.

For prospectus and full information apply to the Superintendent, Clerical and Scholastic Agency Offices, 78, Borough-road, London, S.E.

STOKES HALL SCHOOL, IPSWICH.

Mr. JOHN D. BUCK, B.A., Principal.

Situation elevated and healthy, near the Railway Station. Education, Commercial and Classical, adapted to the Middle-Class Examinations.

A Preparatory Department for Younger Pupils.

Prospectuses forwarded on application.

BOARDING-SCHOOL for TRADESMEN'S SONS, ROCHFORD, ESSEX.

(Four miles from Southend.)

Principal.—Mr. GEO. FOSTER. This School is designed to give a sound Commercial, Mathematical and Artistic Education; and as far as possible, the subjects of study are rendered attractive, and those plans pursued that tend to the gradual development of the mental powers.

As conducive to health—the Bath is regularly taken; Athletic Exercises are systematically gone through, superintended by a very efficient Drill Sergeant, of the "Seventh Essex Rifles"; and the pleasant relaxation that Cricket affords, is enjoyed during the summer months.

The Schoolroom is spacious and comfortable, and the sleeping apartments are separate and well ventilated. All meals are taken with the family, and the comforts of home are combined with the mild and firm discipline of School.

Circulars, as above, or of Messrs. Mead and Powell, 73, Cheapside.

TETTENHALL PROPRIETARY SCHOOL.

MIDLAND COUNTIES PROPRIETARY SCHOOL COMPANY (LIMITED).

HEAD MASTER : Rev. ROBERT HALLEY, M.A.

This School furnishes, on moderate terms, a sound and liberal Education, both Classical and Commercial, with a religious training in harmony with the principles held by Evangelical Nonconformists.

The NEXT TERM will COMMENCE on the 5th April. Applications for admission should be addressed to the Head Master, who will supply any information that may be required.

TERMS :

For Pupils entering under 14 years of age, 40 guineas.

For Pupils entering above 14 years of age, 50 guineas.

Tettenhall is well known as a most healthy and picturesque village, quite out of the mining district, and within three miles of the railway-stations at Wolverhampton.

THE Rev. RICHARD PERKINS, PRAEACHFIELD, GREAT MALVERN, Receives a LIMITED NUMBER of GENTLEMEN'S SONS to BOARD and EDUCATE. Terms, &c., on application.

EDUCATION in LAUSANNE, SWITZERLAND.

Mr. JAMES MORLEY has opened an Establishment for the reception of a LIMITED NUMBER of YOUNG GENTLEMEN, to whom, with the aid of competent Professors, he will give a thorough English education, combined with French, German, and other Languages.

References :—Rev. George Smith, D.D., Poplar; Samuel Morley, Esq., &c.

Terms—100 Guineas per Annum.

For Prospects and full particulars, apply to James Britton, Esq., 4, The Terrace, South Hackney.

WHEELER and WILSON'S UNRIVALLED PRIZE MEDAL

LOCK-STITCH SEWING-MACHINES

With every recent improvement and addition for STITCHING, BINDING, CORDING, HEMMING, BRAIDING, TUCKING, &c.

This elegant Machine ranks highest in estimation on account of the elasticity, permanence, beauty, and general desirability of the work when done, and also its range of application to every description of household and manufacturing work. It makes a stitch the same on both sides the fabric, firm, durable, and which will not rip or ravel.

Society for Supplying Home Teachers and Books in Moon's Type, to enable the Blind to Read the Scriptures.

President—The Right Honourable the Earl

of Shaftesbury, K.G.

500, New Oxford-street, London, W.C.

March 15th, 1864.

Messrs. Wheeler and Wilson,

Gentlemen,—I have much pleasure in informing you of the success which has followed the efforts made for teaching some of our Blind female readers the use of your Sewing Machine.

Their progress in stitching, tucking, and quilting, after a few lessons has been quite remarkable, eliciting marked approbation from those who have witnessed it. I trust that the use of your Machine will be accepted, not only for the benefit of the poorer class of blind persons, but for the amusement of those more advantageously circumstanced.

Accept my earnest thanks for all the assistance we have received from you in this early stage of our efforts, and for your liberal donation.

I am Gentlemen, your obedient Servant,

EDWARD MOORE.

(Signed)

Instruction gratis to every purchaser. Illustrated prospectus gratis and post-free.

OFFICES AND SALE ROOMS.

139, REGENT-STREET, LONDON, W.

SEWING MACHINES.

GROVER AND BAKER'S

CELEBRATED ELASTIC OR DOUBLE LOCK-STITCH

SEWING MACHINES,

WITH ALL THE LATEST IMPROVEMENTS,
ARE THE BEST AND SIMPLEST EVER OFFERED,

AND ARE WARRANTED TO DO

BETTER, STRONGER, AND HANDSOMER WORK, WITH LESS TROUBLE, THAN ANY OTHER.

For Family Use, or Dress and Mantle Making, they are positively unrivalled, doing plain and ornamental work with equal facility. They stitch, hem, fell, tuck, gather, quilt, cord, braid, and embroider, are very easily managed, and not liable to derangement. Upwards of 100,000 now in use in all parts of the world.

Every Machine guaranteed. Instruction gratis. Illustrated prospectus and samples of work gratis and post free.

GROVER AND BAKER
SEWING MACHINE COMPANY,
150, REGENT-STREET, LONDON, W.

59, BOLD-STREET, LIVERPOOL.

These Machines, and the work done upon them, have never failed to receive the first premium over all competition wherever exhibited.



**DARTFORD HOUSE SCHOOL,
DARTFORD, KENT.**

Of the Rev. W. J. WILSON'S former Pupils, some are engaged in Merchantile Pursuits, others have gained Senior Scholarships in Law and Science, with the degrees of B.A., M.A., and LL.B. in the Queen's University, and have entered the Ministry of the Established and Non-established Churches. One is Assistant-Judge in the Civil Service in India.

References to Revs. Dr. Angus, T. Pottenger, C. J. Middle-ditch, S. J. Davis, and W. Waiters.

Terms, £22. to £24. per annum.

Prospectuses on application to the Principal.

**COMMERCIAL SCHOOL, CRANFORD
HALL, near HOUNSLOW, MIDDLESEX.**

PRINCIPAL:—Mr. VERNEY.

This school is adapted to the requirements of the Sons of Respectable Tradesmen and others. The Premises are First-class, spacious, elevated, and healthy; the rooms are numerous and lofty; there is an excellent well-ventilated school-room and class-rooms; a large playground, lawn, and gardens; with every other convenience.

The education is sound, practical, and commercial; with or without French, Piano, Surveying, &c.

Mr. VERNEY has for upwards of Twenty Years been actively engaged in the pleasing and responsible work of training the young, and is favoured with numerous references.

TERMS PER QUARTER:

For Pupils over Twelve years of age, Seven Guineas.

For Pupils under Twelve years of age, Six Guineas.

(Terms made inclusive, when preferred.)

Cranford Hall School is on the Bath-road, twelve miles from Hyde-park Corner, and near the Hounslow, Feltham, Southall, and West Drayton Stations, at either of which Mr. Verney's conveyance meets Parents and Pupils.

**LONDON.—BERNARD'S PRIVATE
HOTEL and BOARDING-HOUSE** is unsurpassed for Cleanliness, Comfort, and Economy.

GRANVILLE HOUSE,

1, Granville-square, Wharton-street, King's-cross-road. "I have been in the habit of travelling in England and America, but never felt more satisfied than I have done while staying at Mrs. Bernard's Hotel. It is quite a home."—Mr. M. B. Spence, Darlington.

**LONDON.—SHIRLEY'S TEMPERANCE
HOTEL**

37, QUEEN'S-SQUARE, BLOOMSBURY, W.C.

Beds, from 1s. 6d.; PLAIN BREAKFAST or TEA, 1s. The above house is well and centrally situated. There is a spacious Coffee-room overlooking the Square; it is within five minutes' walk of Holborn, and near the Inns of Court, British Museum, St. Paul's, &c.; and admirably suited for Parties, either on pleasure or business.

**HOSPITAL for DISEASES of the SKIN,
NEW BRIDGE-STREET, BLACKFRIARS.**

The Committee earnestly seek the Sympathy of the Christian Public for the many Sufferers attending this Hospital. Nearly 1,000 attend weekly; 127,123 have received the benefits of the Charity since its establishment in 1841. The expenses are necessarily very heavy.

Donations or Subscriptions will be most thankfully received. Bankers—Messrs. Barclay, Bevan, and Co., Lombard-street.

GEORGE BURT, F.R.C.S., Hon. Secretary.
ALFRED S. RICHARDS, Secretary.

**HOSPITAL for SICK CHILDREN, 48 and
49, GREAT ORMOND-STREET, W.C.**

Patron—THE QUEEN.

Present number of In-Patients 66
Weekly attendance of Out-Patients 1,500

The Committee, in order to meet the numerous and ever-increasing applications for admission, have effected alterations that will enable them at once to Open a New Ward containing six beds; other alterations are in progress which will permit a further addition of nine beds (total fifteen), entailing an additional expenditure of nearly £600. per annum.

The Committee earnestly solicit AID. The Hospital is not endowed, but entirely depends on voluntary support.

Bankers—Messrs. Williams, Deacon, and Co., Birch Lane; Messrs. Hoare, Fleet-street; and Messrs. Herries, St. James's-street.

May, 1865. F. H. DICKINSON, Chairman.

**GENERAL ASSURANCE COMPANY,
62, KING WILLIAM-STREET, LONDON,
ESTABLISHED 1837.**

CAPITAL, ONE MILLION.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

No charge made for Policies or stamps.

The full benefit of the further reduction of Fire Duty secured to Assurers.

Settlements of Losses prompt and liberal.

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The Reserve Fund upwards of six times the Annual Life Income.

The Bonus added to Policies in 1863 was from 30 to 60 per cent, according to the Assurer's Age.

The new Premiums for 1864 were 25 per cent. more than those of the previous year.

INCOME.

The general Income of the Company now exceeds £100,000 a year.

THOMAS PRICE, Secretary.

**MANCHESTER FIRE ASSURANCE
COMPANY.—ESTABLISHED 1824.**

98, KING-STREET, MANCHESTER.

96, Cheapside, London.

Capital: One Million Sterling.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN MANCHESTER:

KEDMUND BUCKLEY, Esq., Chairman.
DAVID HARRISON, Esq., Deputy Chairman.

John Barratt, Esq. John Heugh, Esq.
Edmund Buckley, jun., Esq. Bernhard Liebert, Esq.
John Chapman, Esq., M.P. Alfred Milne, Esq.
Tho. Barnham Foster, Esq. Joseph Peel, Esq.

George Withington, Esq.

Insurances are granted by this Company on nearly every description of Property in Great Britain, at moderate rates.

Insurances may also be effected on Property in Foreign Countries, and in some of the Colonies, at current rates.

Mills, Factories, and other hazardous risks will be specially surveyed at the request of the owner.

Cotton Mills not at work, will be insured at 5s. per cent.

per Annum.

Farming Stock insured Free from Duty, allowing the use of a Steam Threshing Machine.

Applications for Agencies should be addressed to

JAMES B. NORTHCOCKT, Secretary to the Company.

COLMAN'S GENUINE MUSTARD.

TRADE MARK.

On each



**THE BULL'S HEAD,
Package.**

At the Great Exhibition, 1862,

OBTAINED THE

ONLY PRIZE MEDAL

For "Purity and Excellence of Quality."

Sold by all Grocers, Druggists, &c., throughout the United Kingdom.

J. and J. COLMAN, 26, Cannon-street, London, E.C.

**THE DUBLIN TRUNK CONNECTING
RAILWAY COMPANY.**

Incorporated by Act of Parliament 27 and 28 Vic. Capital, £255,000, in 5,100 Provisional Scrip Certificates to bearer of £50 each.

£1 to be paid on application and £4 on allotment.

Interest at the rate of £6 per cent. per annum during construction will be allowed on all moneys paid upon call.

DIRECTORS.

Right Hon. W. MONSEY, M.P., Chairman.

B. H. Hartley, Esq., Director National Bank.

W. T. Mulvany, Esq., late Commissioner of Public Works in Ireland.

John O'Meara, Esq., Director National Bank.

F. W. Russell, Esq., M.P., Chairman National Discount Company.

GENERAL MANAGER.

W. Forbes, Esq., late Manager of the Midland Great Western Railway of Ireland.

ENGINEERS.

John Smith Burke, Esq., 4, Queen's-square, Westminster.

Robert Mallett, Esq., 11, Bridge-street, Westminster.

SOLICITORS.

Messrs. Sole, Turners, and Hardwick, London.

Messrs. Kernaghan and Saunders, Dublin.

BANKERS.

The National Bank, Old Broad-street, and its Branches in London and Ireland.

The National Bank of Liverpool (Limited), Liverpool.

BROKERS.

London: James Shepherd, Esq., 36, Throgmorton-street.

Dublin: Edward Fox, Esq., Dame-street.

Offices—5, Bridge-street, Westminster.

PROSPECTUS.

This important Metropolitan Railway will connect the Dublin and Kingstown Railway at Sandymount with the terminus of the Great Southern and Western Railway near Phoenix Park.

It will join a system of tramways in connection with the docks on the south side of the River Liffey, and the harbour and shipping at the North Wall, and will connect itself with the line from Dublin to Drogheda and Belfast, and also with the Midland Great Western Railway.

The proposed line will be seven miles in length.

It will form a direct communication between the Midland Great Western and the Dublin and Kingstown Railway; and it will in like manner directly connect the Great Southern and Western with the Dublin and Drogheda Railway, and will become the main route for all the traffic between the northern and southern parts of Ireland. It will thus not only be a suburban omnibus line for the city of Dublin, but it will occupy the remarkable and unrivalled position, that the whole of the interchange traffic between the great trunk lines converging in Dublin (viz., the Dublin and Drogheda and Northern lines, the Midland Great Western and Dublin and Meath Railways and the Great Southern and Western Railway), together with the through traffic on those lines to and from England, and their traffic in goods and minerals with the docks and harbour, will of necessity pass over the whole or some part of it.

By the formation of this line, the mail service between England and Ireland will be considerably accelerated, and passengers will be enabled to travel to and from the port of Kingstown and any part of the Irish-railway system without changing carriages.

It is proposed to have a station at the New Cattle Market in Dublin, and thereby to develop the trade in connection with that extensive branch of traffic.

It is an important feature of the proposed line that the advantages of deep water at all states of the tide at Holyhead and Kingstown will be rendered available for the traffic in cattle, goods, and minerals.

From its position in relation to these ports and to the port of Dublin, this line will effect a considerable saving in the cost of transhipment and carriage of coal sent into the interior of the country, and a large development of coal traffic may confidently be anticipated as the result of these increased facilities.

The London and North-Western Railway Company cordially approve of the undertaking, and will afford their fullest co-operation in developing the traffic between their system and the Irish railways over the proposed line.

The "Act" for this line was obtained in the last session of Parliament, after a most searching and careful inquiry of twenty-two days before a select committee of the House of Commons, which unanimously adopted it as the best of five competing schemes that had been under its consideration for the purpose of supplying Dublin with a Metropolitan Railway communication, effecting a connection between the Railway systems having their termini in that city.

It is well known that the metropolitan and suburban railways of London have produced results exceeding the most sanguine anticipations of their original promoters, although the cost of construction, including the purchase of properties, has been greatly in excess of any other railways in the kingdom.

In the present instance the position of the Dublin and Kingstown Railway, of which the proposed line is practically an extension, furnishes the very best data for estimating its future traffic.

The Dublin and Kingstown line has cost about £60,000 per mile. Its traffic is confined to passengers only, from which it derives an income yielding an annual dividend of about 10 per cent., and the £100 Stock is selling at about £200 at the present time.

It is estimated that the Dublin Trunk Connecting Railway will cost about £37,000 per mile, and, in addition to its suburban omnibus traffic, and the through passenger traffic, it will be the receiver of an extensive traffic in cattle, goods, and minerals.

There is therefore just ground for expecting that the Dublin Trunk Connecting Railway will be at least quite as successful as the Dublin and Kingstown Line, or, in other words, that it will become one of the very best and most remunerative railway properties in the kingdom.

The works have been undertaken by the eminent firm of Messrs. J. and C. Rigby, the contractors for the harbour and other works at Holyhead.

On registration of the scrip, of which due notice will be

given, the certificates for £50 will be divided into five shares of £10 each.

In the event of no allotment being made, the deposits will be returned in full. Should a less number of shares be allotted than are applied for, the deposits will be made available towards the payment on allotment, and the balance (if any) returned to the applicant.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR SCRIP CERTIFICATES.

No.

To the Directors of the Company called "The Dublin Trunk Connecting Railway," per Messrs. Chadwick, Adamson, M'Kenna, and Co., Financial Agents, 27, Great George-street, Westminster, and 64, Cross-street, Manchester.

Gentlemen.—Having paid to your bankers the sum of £50, I hereby request that you will allot me scrip certificates, of £50 each, in the Dublin Trunk Connecting Railway Company, and I agree to accept such scrip certificates or any less number that may be allotted to me, and to pay the further sum of £4 per certificate due upon such allotment.

Dated this day of 1865.

Name in full.....

Firm, if any.....

Profession or occupation.....

Place of business.....

Residence.....

Applications for forms may be made to the bankers, the brokers, or to the undersigned, from whom all further information may be obtained.

CHADWICK, ADAMSON, M'KENNA, and Co.

Financial Agents.

27, Great George-street, Westminster, and 64, Cross-street, Manchester.

**THE DUBLIN TRUNK CONNECTING
RAILWAY COMPANY.**

THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT, AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XXV.—NEW SERIES, No. 1023.]

LONDON : WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7, 1865.

PRICE { UNSTAMPED .. M.
STAMPED 6d.

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Ecclesiastical Affairs.

THE LAST GREAT STRUGGLE OF THE SESSION.

We hope we shall not mislead our readers by characterising in the words used above the forthcoming debate and division of Wednesday next on the motion for the second reading of the Oxford University Tests Abolition Bill. We would caution them, however, against accepting the title prefixed to this article in its absolute sense. The fag end of a Session, and especially of a Session with the expiration of which the existing Parliament will cease to be, offers a tempting opportunity to those who are perpetually on the alert to snatch in a furtive kind of way an advantage for the Church Establishment. It commonly happens that just when the friends of religious equality flatter themselves that the last action of the Parliamentary campaign has been fought, and they begin to relax their vigilance and ease their machinery, that some little insidious measure quietly creeps through its preliminary stages without attracting attention, and, unless promptly squelched, suddenly leaps beyond reach of popular jurisdiction, and goes up to the Lords to receive their welcome assent. As matters stand at present, the Oxford University question ought to conclude the series of what have been designated the "Wednesday" contests of the moribund Parliament. But it is impossible to speak with entire confidence on this point, and we trust, therefore, that a sharp outlook will be kept against sporadic raids and contingent enterprises by which unexpected mischief may be done.

Mr. Göschen has been somewhat unfortunate in having been driven by stress of circumstances to so late a period of the Session. It was not he, however, who fixed upon Wednesday for the "Derby," nor can he be held responsible for the celebration of the Queen's birthday on that particular day of the week. Few things are more difficult for a private member having charge of a Bill, than getting at once an early and a clear day for the Order of the House for the second reading of his measure. His most eager wishes, his best intentions, his utmost efforts, may be again and again defeated, for in this matter he is exposed very much to the caprice of chance. The lateness of the date, therefore, must not be taken as evidence of any deficiency of good-will, or of any blunder in tactics. It is proof only of want of luck. So far from furnishing a valid ground of excuse to the half-hearted and indifferent, it should be looked upon as a forcible appeal to every professed supporter of the measure to be in his place at the appointed time. If we are rightly informed, the opponents of Mr. Göschen's Bill will muster in full force on Wednesday next, notwithstanding the advanced period of the Session. It will hardly become its friends, therefore, to take advantage of his mis-

fortune, and, in fact, to give point and venom to it by their absence. No doubt, it will entail on many the necessity of suspending for a day or two their electioneering efforts—but the necessity equally affects both sides. In our judgment, moreover, the absence from the forthcoming division of Liberal members who are candidates for the next Parliament will be far more detrimental to their prospects than any comparatively trivial loss of time in canvassing for votes. Upon a considerable section of the electoral body, it will leave a very disagreeable impression, and one which is not likely to wear away before the General Election is upon them. The division list will be eagerly scrutinised. The importance of each vote will perhaps be unduly estimated owing to the simple fact that in all probability it will be the last of its kind, and will be regarded as a test of the sincerity of new professions. It may be that some members will gain and others lose greater credit than they deserve on account of what they do, or fail to do, on this occasion. We call attention to the probability only, without undertaking to justify it. It is for those principally concerned to deal with it as their wisdom may direct. The division will almost certainly bear with special force upon the issue of the approaching electoral struggle in several cases, and the time is assuredly not the best that could be chosen for disheartening any portion of the Liberal constituent majority.

We hope no one will flatter himself into the belief that this Bill excites no interest in the minds of those who, were it passed into law, would reap the largest benefit from its provisions. The measure, it is true, falls short of what the non-Anglican denominations think themselves fairly entitled to claim—but they will not on this account regard its rejection with indifference. They are giving it their most strenuous support, as may be gathered from the fact that they have organised an influential committee, representative of all the leading unendowed religious communities, to lend Mr. Göschen all the assistance they can command. Most of the Liberal members, we conclude, have already heard enough, either from this committee, or from their own constituents, to warrant the inference that the impending discussion and division are attracting serious notice, and that neither will the subject-matter of it, nor the mode in which it is treated, be lost sight of, when the question is adjourned from Parliament to the country. All intelligent and educated men outside the Church Establishment are opening their eyes to the immense disadvantages inflicted on them by monopolising in the hands of a single religious section the means of the highest intellectual culture, and the prizes which act as an inducement to carry it to its furthest limits. All are beginning to see and to feel that exclusion from the best University honours, privileges, and emoluments, has operated fatally on the social *status* and the political influence of the excluded, and has done not a little to artificially degrade them into an inferior caste. All are becoming sensitive to the taunts of those who first deny them a due participation in the advantages of University culture, and then cast scorn upon them for the incompleteness of their education. All have found out that the road to political eminence is all but shut against those who have not enjoyed a University training, and that the surest method of keeping down the Free Churches is to appropriate the benefits of the national educational seminaries exclusively to members of the Establishment. No; if ever we have been remiss in our interest in this question, that time has passed away. We cannot and shall not patiently endure for the future the galling injustice with which we are treated in this matter, and we should earnestly advise no Liberal member to presume upon our supposed readiness to overlook the affront which indifference to our claims on this head will offer us.

We beg pardon if, in our desire to prevent misunderstanding, we have allowed a tone of seeming mistrust to pervade our observations. After what occurred last Session, we freely admit that we have no right to anticipate want of generosity on the part of those who sit on the Ministerial side of the House in reference to Mr. Göschen's Bill. If our remarks will bear an interpretation likely to jar on the feelings of those who then displayed their gallantry in our favour, we hope they will consider those remarks withdrawn. The truth is, we attach more importance to the vote of next Wednesday than to any which the Session has produced, or is likely to produce. Intense anxiety does not always measure the effect of its expressions. That which it utters as a friendly caution may, without any such intention, assume the appearance of an undeserved menace. We have no such meaning in our heart of hearts—but we confess to a more earnest desire than we can fitly express that the vote of next Wednesday may indicate the determination of the Liberal party to cast off the restrictions which have hitherto confined the benefits of a University education to members of the Church of England.

ECCLESIASTICAL NOTES.

THE Church of England—the clerical portion of it, that is to say—has now fairly committed itself to the Conscience Clause. Archdeacon Denison no longer stands alone; and at the meeting of the National Society last week, even so moderate a man as the Bishop of London committed himself to the policy of the Society in this matter. During the last three years, it appears that seventy-one schools have been refused aid from the Parliamentary grant, because their trust-deeds did not contain the clause. The managers of forty-one of these acceded to the terms of the Privy Council Committee; the remainder went on apparently without any Government assistance. The subscribers to the National Society have now publicly expressed their approval of the course adopted by their Committee; the battle between the Government and the Church is therefore to continue, unless, of course, the irrepressible Dissenter should meanwhile give way, and consent to all the Church's terms. This contingency, however, is less likely to occur than another; namely, that the exorbitant pretensions of the Church should meet with such a sudden and decisive check as shall drive it back to humbler ground. There is more than one precedent in English history of extravagant ecclesiastical claims being met by an advance of the civil power on ecclesiastical privileges that were not merely claimed but actually enjoyed. Pretension has been pretty frequently met not merely by resistance, but by something like punishment.

We are glad to notice, however, that all Churchmen do not think alike, and to be able to contrast the speech of Archdeacon Sandford with that of Archdeacon Denison in the debate in the Lower House of Convocation on the subject. Archdeacon Denison informed the House that Earl Granville had stated, that instead of confining the Conscience Clause to the building grants it ought to be extended to the annual grants, and if that were to come to pass, the Church, he remarked, would rise as one man to say, that unless its conscience was respected it would not have any education grant at all. He told how Lord Derby had deceived him by his "abject treachery," and declared that he would never forgive him; and how inexcusable it was that a clergyman should not be able to do as he liked in his own parish. Let us give two quotations from this speech as it is reported in the *Guardian*. In the first, the Archdeacon promises Lynch-law to any member of the Liberation Society who might visit East Brent:—

There is no doubt that if the Government departments hold out the flag there will be plenty of people

to follow it, and we shall have in all our parishes upon this education something like what is happening with regard to Church-rates. We shall have a School Liberation Society, and we shall have odd-looking men coming down and poking their noses into every parish in England, and saying to us, "I say, what in the way of the schools? Cannot we get up a row with the clergy about the school? Let us show that the Church of England is no longer to be the master of the people as she has been." As though the Church had ever done anything to coerce or distress the people. I am happy to say that we have no such persons at present in my parish. They are very sensible people at East Brent. One of my vestry told me the other day that if a Liberal were to come among them he would be ducked in the nearest pond.

In the second, all the powers of earth are invoked against this monstrous Conscience Clause:—

I say, in the name of all these—aye, in the name of the whole State, in the name of her Majesty, in the Parliament of England, the Convocation of the Church of England, of all the clergy and all the people, all the Dissenters, do not go on troubling us with the introduction of measures which tend to break down all that confidence which ought perpetually to subsist between the civil power and the Church, making people so doubtful and hesitating as to what is to come next, that rather than be submitted to such innovations and such fears continually, they will be disposed to cut the knot and say, as I have been obliged for eighteen years to say, "No power on earth shall induce me to touch with my little finger one farthing of the Parliamentary grant."

These extracts will give the reader some idea of the spirit in which this battle is to be fought. The Dissenters are to be dealt with as Lady Macbeth dealt with the King whose mere existence troubled her; and meanwhile the Archdeacon, like the three witches, makes the necessary incantation.

No speech could be in greater contrast to this than that of Archdeacon Sandford, who said that he considered the remarks of Mr. Denison as an outrage on Nonconformists—men "as high-minded, honourable, and conscientious" as the Archdeacon himself, and who have as much right to consideration from the Government as Churchmen. "Then," said Dr. Sandford, "he has said that the way to deal with a Nonconformist who differs from him is to duck him in a horsepond. Now, I must say, as a Christian minister and a Christian gentleman, that this is not the way to deal with our Dissenting brethren." But when the division came, Archdeacon Sandford was nowhere, and Mr. Denison was found to have carried Convocation with him.

What impression is such a debate as this likely to make on a Government or on the large mass of the people? Will it make the Church more popular, or statesmen more disposed to yield to its arrogant pretensions? The downright stupidity of the leaders of the Church in all their movements is perfectly marvellous. They seem to think that the only moral weapons that can conquer in this or any other age are the coarsest. Browbeating is never absent from their counsels, nor bullying from their manner, and they actually think that with such weapons they can conquer the world to the Christian religion.

We are glad to see another Archdeacon discussing with coolness and good temper the question of separation of the Church from the State. Archdeacon Bickersteth, of Buckingham, has devoted a great portion of his charge to this subject. A full report is contained in the columns of an able contemporary, the *Bucks Advertiser* and *Aylesbury News*, which also devotes an article in reply to the Archdeacon's reasoning. Beginning with Church-rates, the venerable clergyman expresses his approval of the astute policy of borrowing money on the security of the rates, whereby they are perpetuated for twenty years, and he congratulates his clergy on the fact that in some cases, "notwithstanding the vigorous efforts of the agents of the Liberation Society," that rates have been passed with little or no opposition on the part of Dissenters, many of whom, he says, "to their honour," are ready to acquiesce in the principle because they feel that the National Church is a material blessing to the community. On which our contemporary naively remarks:—

We venture to say that the smallest possible fraction of the Dissenting body consider the existence of a National—that is, an endowed—Church a "material blessing," or "acquiesce" in the system of Church-rates, only as an escape from still greater evils. It is unfortunate, to say the least, that, just at the time when an experiment on the patience of Dissenters is about to be tried by a proposal to raise a sum of money on the security of the Church-rates, the Dissenters should be thus distinctly warned that by refraining from opposition they will be taken as sanctioning the principle of a National Church.

The greater question is alluded to with becoming gravity of language, and a full consciousness of the critical position in which the Establishment as such is placed. The Archdeacon's arguments are, however, not very new. He first refers to the fact that there have been State Establishments of religion

in all ages and all nations, from Sparta (not a very happy instance) downwards. He then says, in significant language:—

We admit, of course, that it is not essential to the existence of such a Church that she should be connected with the State. The Church is a Divine incorporation; her charter is in the skies. The State did not establish the Church, neither can the State unmake her. The State may cast her off, but she would not be one whit the less a Church. The union with the State is an accident of her condition—a matter of secondary importance. It is quite possible that she might expand more freely if these bonds were loosed, and go forth with more energy on her glorious mission if set free from the restraints of the temporal power. But before we indulge in enthusiastic dreams like these, we must consider, not what the Church might possibly gain, but what the State would undoubtedly lose, by the separation.

And then follow the old arguments about the inefficiency of Voluntaryism, and the parental duties of the State. Lastly, the Archdeacon believes that if ever the purposes of the Liberation Society should be accomplished, "Then the days of England would soon be numbered, and the glory of the kingdom, the beauty of Britain's excellency, would be swept with the besom of destruction." Unfortunately, this sort of language has been held too often for it now to frighten even old women. We heard it when the slave-trade was abolished; when capital punishment for stealing five-shillings' worth of goods was done away with; when the Test and Corporation Acts were amended; when the Reform Bill was carried, and when Free Trade became law. It is, therefore, a good omen that it is now being held with regard to what we may call our own question.

Our columns of electoral intelligence show that candidates for the honour of representing the counties and boroughs in Parliament are, with unusual frankness and unanimity, declaring their opinions on ecclesiastical questions. A very few persons, who call themselves Liberals, such as Mr. Akroyd, Mr. Waldegrave Leslie, and Mr. Coleridge, have adopted the Tory theory for the settlement of the Church-rate question. In marked opposition to these, we are glad to notice the address of the candidate for the representation of the Isle of Wight, who, himself a Roman Catholic, avows his unequivocal adhesion to the principles of religious equality, and pledges himself to vote for the abolition of Church-rates and the admission of Dissenters to the Universities. We are given to understand that some of the Nonconformist electors of the island will withhold their support from Sir John Simeon because of his ecclesiastical connections. We hope the report is untrue. Our abhorrence of Roman Catholicism is not to be shown by adopting the principles of the Roman Catholic Church, and punishing a man for his religion. Nonconformists, we trust, have not so learned the doctrines of religious equality. If they can justify such action, they must at the same time justify all the doctrines of ecclesiastical exclusiveness. They must excuse a clergyman who withholds charitable gifts from a family because that family are Dissenters; they must justify the old law that no Dissenter was fit to be a member of Parliament; and must agree in the action of those Churchmen who will not vote for the Liberal candidate because he happens to be a Nonconformist. Such conduct is positively fatal to all the principles of religious equality. We could understand persons not voting for Sir John Simeon because he says that he will not vote for the separation of the Church from the State, but we cannot understand how any Nonconformist who will vote for a State Churchman to represent them in Parliament can refuse to vote for a Roman Catholic. We remember the time when Daniel O'Connell and Richard Lalor Sheil stood on the platform of the Religious Freedom Society, and we know what they did to accomplish the abolition of the Test and Corporation Laws. We had no religious exclusiveness then. Let us have none now. We shall conquer Roman Catholicism in this country as we have conquered it hitherto, by very different weapons from this—by an exhibition of the loftier principles and the larger-heartedness that are consistent only with Protestantism. We shall never conquer it by an exhibition of its own spirit.

There appears in the *Christian Spectator* for this month an article on "Church-rates and the Exemption of Dissenters," in which, in the form of a dialogue between an elector and a candidate, the whole of the argument on the exemption question is dealt with. The article is written in view of the General Election, and for the especial use of those constituencies, such as Exeter, Hastings, and Halifax, in which Liberal candidates are working the plausible exemption theory. It will be seen from an advertisement in our leader page that arrangements have been made for reprinting this article as an electoral tract.

THE NEW SCHEME OF CHURCH EXTENSION.

The following extract from the minutes of the Parliamentary Committee of the "Meeting for Sufferings," in connection with the Society of Friends, supplies information respecting the Companies Workmen's Education Bill, which deserves the attention of Nonconformists generally. The Bill, which was brought in by the Archbishop of York, has passed the House of Lords, where the Archbishop successfully resisted a proposal of Earl Granville's that the trusts of all schools established under the Act should contain a "conscience clause," to prevent the exclusion of Nonconformist children.

The attention of the Parliamentary committee of the Meeting for Sufferings has been drawn to a bill, brought in by the Archbishop of York, which has passed the House of Lords, entitled, "An act to enable companies and corporations to provide for the education and religious instruction of the families of their workmen."

This bill provides that a majority of three-fourths of the shareholders of any joint-stock company or corporation present or voting by proxy may resolve that any sum of money, not exceeding that of which notice shall have been duly given in convening such meeting, shall be applied either in gross or annually for such period as they may resolve, in providing for the education, worship, or religious instruction of the families of the persons employed by them; and they may also resolve that any land, not exceeding an acre in any one vote, shall be granted or appropriated in perpetuity or otherwise for any of the purposes aforesaid; and thereupon the directors or other persons authorised to manage the affairs of the company or corporation shall carry such vote into effect.

It is apparent that in the appropriation of the companies' money to the religious instruction and worship of the families of workmen, a new principle of the gravest character is introduced into the management of these companies. It is at present quite competent to the proprietors in their individual character to subscribe voluntarily for all these purposes without an act of Parliament, but the act is to empower a compulsory maintenance for purposes of religion which must be very painful to individual consciences by their being compelled to maintain a form of worship and the teaching of doctrines from which they conscientiously dissent.

The magnitude of the powers thus proposed to be vested in meetings of shareholders to vote away the capital of the company to other uses than that for which it was subscribed, may not be within the province of the Meeting for Sufferings to deal with, but the establishing a vast machinery for religious purposes is very likely to place our members in a position of considerable difficulty, from which they will not find it easy to obtain relief.

We would therefore suggest to our members the expediency of at once seeking an interview with their representatives, and urging upon them the most strenuous opposition, in its present form, to the "Companies Workmen's Education Bill."

OPINIONS OF CANDIDATES ON ECCLESIASTICAL QUESTIONS.

We give a few extracts this week bearing on ecclesiastical questions, from such addresses of candidates as have come before us, and shall continue them in future numbers:—

(CHARLES BUXTON, EAST SURREY.)

I regard Church-rates as unjust to Dissenters and mischievous to the Church.

I disapprove of all oaths except those required in courts of justice. Those enforced specially on Roman Catholics seem to me at once insulting and futile.

Taking a deep interest in the spread of education, I would relax those restrictions which keep several thousands of poor schools from receiving Government grants. I am against imposing rates for purposes of education. I am strongly in favour of the "Conscience Clause."

In Ireland, the two questions of the tenure of land and the position of the Established Church press for settlement.

(W. H. SMITH, CONSERVATIVE, WESTMINSTER.)

As a sincere member of the Established Church, I believe the cultivation of the most kindly feelings towards those who dissent from its communion to be essential to its peace and prosperity. I earnestly hope, therefore, that means may be found for settling equitably and amicably the question of Church-rates, as I am unwilling to consent to their unconditional abolition.

(SIR JOHN SIMEON, LIBERAL, ISLE OF WIGHT.)

You will allow me to recall to your remembrance the circumstances under which, with the deepest regret, I retired from the representation of the island. In 1851 I became a Catholic, and felt it my duty to resign into your hands a trust which had been reposed in me as a member of the Established Church. Since that time I have been constantly resident amongst you, and I venture to hope that I may have shown that the profession of the faith to which I belong in no respect incapacitates an Englishman from a useful participation in the administration of the social and political institutions, in the working of which we are all of us called to take more or less prominently a part.

Deeply and unalterably attached as I am to the constitution of our country, I have no desire to disturb or undermine the existing relations between the State and the Church of England. I must, at the same time, express my honest belief that that Church would be in no respect weakened, were it, by the abolition of Church-rates, to be deprived of the unwilling contributions of those who do not participate in its worship.

(SIR CHARLES LOCOCK, CONSERVATIVE, ISLE OF WIGHT.)

Whilst declaring myself a decided member of the Established Church, I am anxious to give to all that freedom of conscience which I claim to exercise for myself.

(H. ST. JOHN MILDMAY, LIBERAL-CONSERVATIVE, NORTH HANTS.)

I am a sincere member of the Protestant Established Church, and shall always oppose any measure which I consider would be detrimental to her interests. I should be willing to receive favourably proposals by which the difficult and vexatious question of Church-rates could be brought to a satisfactory arrangement; but I should

refuse to consent to any which would involve an unconditional abolition of them.

(F. A. MILBANK, LIBERAL, NORTH RIDING.)

I am a sincere member of the Church of England, and as such I earnestly desire the removal of all causes of bitterness betwixt its members and those of different religious persuasions. I would abolish all invidious distinctions and tests; and with regard to Church-rates, as I have before said, so I now repeat, that I should rejoice if any measure for the due maintenance of those sacred edifices, reared and bequeathed to us by the piety of our ancestors, could be adopted that would satisfy reasonable wishes and views; but failing this, I would say, let this vexed question be at once and for ever removed.

(G. F. HOLROYD, CONSERVATIVE, NORTHAMPTON.)

I am warmly attached to the Established Church, and determined to resist any encroachment upon her privileges. I am, however, disposed to adopt a conciliatory policy towards those who dissent from her views, so long as they, upon their part, are willing to treat disputed questions in the same spirit.

(HON. W. G. DUNCOMBE, CONSERVATIVE, NORTH RIDING.)

Should you again honour me with a renewal of that confidence and support which I now solicit at your hands, I shall continue to oppose every attempt to diminish the rights or impair the influence of the Established Church; whilst I shall support all measures for increasing her usefulness, which are consistent with the great principle of religious liberty, to all classes of my countrymen.

(SIR W. W. BEACH, CONSERVATIVE, NORTH HANTS.)

I am a steadfast adherent to our Protestant institutions. I have supported every proposal which afforded a reasonable hope for the amicable settlement of the question of Church-rates.

(H. C. E. CHILLERS, LIBERAL, PONTEFRACHT.)

I am myself a member of the Church of England, and I would never consent for a moment to do anything which would injure that Church so far as her rights go as the Established Church of the country; but on the other hand, I do not believe that her present position, in regard, for instance, to the question of Church-rates, is a satisfactory one. I am sure it has been shown in those places where the payment of these rates is not enforced, that the Church gains a great deal by that system, and I am prepared as a Churchman, and in the interest of the Church, irrespective of the proper rights of those who do not belong to her communion, to see the question settled in the manner in which, as I then stated, I wished to see it settled when you returned me to Parliament, and in which before many years I hope I shall see it settled. I believe that if the Church came forward and proposed that solution of the question which is inevitable, she would be herself the greater gainer by such course.

(SIR H. D. WOLFF, CONSERVATIVE, DORCHESTER.)

I consider the Church as an essential element in our Constitution, and I would repel to the last any endeavour to separate Church from State.

(MR. PHILLIPS, LIBERAL, FINSBURY.)

As a Churchman he was opposed to Church-rates. He desired the Church to be reformed, but he wished the Church to be reformed by itself. At present he was sorry to say the Church was scarcely the Church for the poor, for except in the Roman Catholic and the Dissenting chapels, you in very rare instances saw the working people congregate. All compromises in regard to the rates having failed, he, as a Church of England man, should abolish them without compromise, and if they were abolished, he was confident the Church would be far stronger than it was at this moment. Whenever the voluntary principle was put to the test, it had come out successful, and it would be so in the matter of Church support.

(THE HON. L. BRAND, LIBERAL, LEWES.)

I hold that our constitution would derive renewed vigour through judicious reforms in our representative system in accordance with the progress of society, and our Church, of which I am an attached member, would be strengthened, and its true interests promoted, by the removal of the vexatious impost of a compulsory rate.

(J. E. GORST, CONSERVATIVE, HAS TINGS.)

Being myself a member of the Church of England, I desire that all other religious communities should enjoy as much freedom as is consistent with the safety of our constitution, and that all sources of irritation between them and the Church of England should be if possible removed. I do not think that the Church of Rome should, under the plea of religious liberty, be suffered to acquire political power within the realm.

(P. F. ROBERTSON, CONSERVATIVE, HASTINGS.)

I regard our Established Church as a great bulwark against Rome—a great defence against infidelity—and most valuable for the maintenance of our civil and religious liberties, and my best assistance would be given to all measures tending to increase her efficiency and usefulness; and at the same time I would always be prepared to support any arrangement which appears likely to secure the liberty and afford scope for the valuable labours of other branches of the Christian Church in the land; but all aggressions on the part of the Papacy, or attempts to obtain any control over the civil power by the clergy of the Church of Rome, I would decidedly oppose. I am in favour of official inspection of convents, if any such institutions are to be permitted in this country.

(MAJOR DICKSON, CONSERVATIVE, DOVER.)

I am opposed to Church-rates. For one reason, because they are liable to create a feeling of hostility and animosity towards the Church; for another, because they are regarded as a burden which ought not to be borne by a very large and important class of the community.

(LORD BURY, LIBERAL, DOVER.)

To refer to one great topic on which you are interested—the question of Church-rates—a great deal has been said in favour of Mr. Freshfield's view—a compromise that shall be at once acceptable to Dissenters and Churchmen. There is not such a course; there is no middle course. The only course open to you is to remove Church-rates altogether. By their abolition every clergyman in the Church of England would find his hands strengthened and his power of persuasiveness in this direction increased.

(MUSTAFA SMITH, LIBERAL, DOVER.)

Although a member of the Church of England, he desired to see Church-rates abolished, all attempts at compromise having failed.

(F. W. TRUSCOTT, LIBERAL-CONSERVATIVE, DUDLEY.)

The question of Church-rates, is one which should be definitively settled. The heartburning and discontent engendered by their continuance are in direct antagonism to that spirit of true Christianity of which the Church universal is at once the authority and the teacher. If no satisfactory adjustment be possible, it were better that the maintenance of the Church should depend on the voluntary support of Churchmen rather than an impost should be perpetuated obnoxious to the conscientious scruples of our Dissenting brethren.

DISSENTERS AND THE GENERAL ELECTION.

(From the *Freeman*.)

We take it to be the greatest service we can render the country just now—the special work of the few weeks now before us—to secure the election of a small band of Nonconformists who can maintain a debate. Like Mr. Morley, we have no wish to divide the Liberals; but, also like him, we think that it would do Liberalism no harm, but probably much good, to try the Opposition benches for a time. Liberals in a minority in the House, would be of not the least disadvantage to us. Tories in office could do no injury, while languid Liberals would brace their political health by rustication, or by the Arctic temperature of the Speaker's left, and would invigorate their political muscles by struggles to do something politically better than standing still. Let office go to those who can get most votes from the miserable fraction of British citizens who now possess them. We want just now not votes, but voices. We write deliberately when we say, we would rather return three or four zealous and competent advocates of Religious Equality to the House of Commons at this election, than a hundred majority for the "genial old man," the "good hearty fellow of eighty." The former would indefinitely advance the knowledge and the truly Liberal principles of the nation, and lay a firm foundation for increasingly energetic action; the strong majority for Palmerston would be a majority for seven years more of political inanity. Let Dissenters clear their vision. Let them look impartially at Palmerstonian Liberalism, and ask whether it ought not to be extinguished; if it is Toryism under a false name, then in the name of honesty let the majority of the House take its right name; let the real Liberals be sifted out, and appear the minority which they at present are. In that capacity they will show themselves men; and the political Lord Dundrearies will simper on the Tory benches, or better still, in their clubs.

In appealing to our friends to bestir themselves for the return of a debating force of the kind suggested, at this election, we know that where it is attempted they will be met at once by the prejudices of Liberal Churchmen. These worthy men like our aid; but too many of them, partly through our own supineness, have come to think that they are not to give us theirs. We are bound to deal fairly with habits we have too much fostered, but we must no longer indulge them. If they are, as they profess to be, firmly attached to religious as well as civil liberty, and if on that ground they claim our support, they may be reminded that we ought to have a few members in the House, the best qualified we can find, to exhibit and defend our views of religious liberty. They have a superabundance of pleaders for their limited conception of it, and they cannot deny that our more advanced demands ought to be fully and fairly heard. There is much said at this time respecting the right of minorities to representation; and the chief contention is whether they are best represented on the present system, or whether a formal arrangement to effect that object is not desirable. By such an arrangement as Mr. Hare's for instance, Nonconformists could return their best men—their best speakers we mean; but if Liberal Churchmen everywhere refuse our best candidates, it is clear, that large as the Dissenting minority is, it is not fairly represented—not represented by the men it prefers. Will a candid Liberal Churchman deny that we are entitled, though a minority in any individual constituency, or in the Liberal constituency as a whole, to be represented? If he cannot, can he deny that he and his friends ought not everywhere to refuse our representative men? Liberal Churchmen must acknowledge that subjects connected with religious liberty and equality are certain to be prominent in the debates of the House of Commons; they ought to wish that Dissenters, sure enough to be outvoted, should not be forbidden to speak.

Churchmen should be reminded that Dissenters universally have no wish, were it in their power, to coerce them into concession. Dissenters do not believe in physical force. They wish to convince, not to overbear. They would not resort to tumult and vulgar uproar, for they wish to rest their cause on its merits only. They are so sure of having truth on their side, that they only ask fair opportunity for placing it before the public mind. In this they resemble the Free-traders, of whose great principle that of religious equality may, indeed, be regarded as the religious development. It may take long, we may tell our Liberal Churchmen, to disabuse them of religious protectionist notions, but that they will ultimately be disabused, we can no more doubt than did Richard Cobden in the parallel case. Hence our patience. But if unfairly refused a hearing, we may become impatient; we may even be driven to desert (not to vote against) Liberals who deny us fair liberty of speech. Nothing would make us factious supporters of Tories; but we may be compelled to feel that Liberals who treat us with selfish one-sided illiberality, may justly be left to shift for themselves. They ought to suffer the penalty of wishing to engross the representation; and, where Liberals can return two members, to find that Churchmen determining to return both belong to the class of the proverbial fools who do not know that the half is more than the whole.

ARCHDEACON SANDFORD, THE CONSCIENCE CLAUSE, AND DISSENTERS.

At the recent meeting of the Convocation of the Province of Canterbury there was a protracted debate on the conscience clause which the Committee of Council seek to impose on the National Society. Arch-

deacon Danison took the lead against the clause, and was supported by quite an array of Church dignitaries. The Rev. Sir Henry Thompson moved as an amendment:

That this House approves of the principles of a conscience clause, subject to the following limitation:—That the reading of the Holy Scriptures and the learning of the Apostles' creed, Lord's Prayer, and the Ten Commandments be made compulsory on all the children.

The amendment was lost on a division, and the Archdeacon's resolution declared to be carried. In seconding the amendment, Archdeacon Sandford made a noticeable speech. He said he believed that Nonconformists were as anxious to educate their children religiously as himself.

It has been stated, and I grieve to read it, that so long as reading, writing, and arithmetic are taught in our schools, Dissenting parents are quite indifferent as to religion; but I do not believe this to be the case. It may be that many are content to trust to the influences of home and the teaching of the Lord's-day for religion. Mr. Binney, an eminent Dissenting minister, stated lately in a noble sermon preached on the occasion of the death of the Duke of Northumberland, that his object in supporting the conscience clause was that if the child of a Dissenter was called upon to repeat the whole of the catechism he would be made to say that which in his individual case was not the truth. I believe the Government of this country is most anxious to promote the welfare of the Established Church, but they are the guardians of the civil and religious rights of the entire people. They are responsible for the proper distribution of the funds of the country, and as Dissenters have consciences as well as Churchmen, and as they pay taxes as well as Churchmen, so the Government must have regard for Nonconformists as well as for Churchmen. Thus they give in large parishes assistance to Dissenting as well as the Church schools; and where there is but a small body of Dissenters, they do not ask for the adoption of the conscience clause. I think it is a very strong argument in favour of this clause, that Nonconformists may have a large number of children in a parish and yet not be able to raise a school of their own, insomuch as they are generally poor—so that it would be a great hardship if they could not have the advantages of those schools—which, by the way, are national schools.

Canon Riddell: National schools on the principle of the national Church.

Archdeacon Sandford: Yes, but that does not extinguish the rights of others. The Government will give assistance to schools established on the most ultra-Church principles, but it is always on the condition that the consciences and rights of Dissenters are respected. I will read a passage or two from a pamphlet lately published by Canon Seymour to show the view taken by some of these ultra-Church managers of schools:—"I alone (a clergyman is represented as saying) have responsibility for these children's souls, and I cannot escape that responsibility except by their wilful and deliberate rejection of it. If I am to do them any real good you must trust them to me entirely, not only during the week but also on the Lord's-day." I consider that a monstrous assumption. Again I read—"The children of Dissenters, if their parents request it, are exempted from attendance at the Sunday-school and the church; but they must receive the same religious instruction as the other children."

Canon Seymour: I must request the Archdeacon—

Archdeacon Sandford: I was going on to say that my rev. friend—than whom no man can be more ingenuous and fair—states these as the views of a great body of the clergy, but adds that his own practice is not to insist on the children of Dissenters going to church. I do not know whether in his schools they are taught the whole Catechism. Both these statements are put forward in this pamphlet, which, however, seems to ignore a very important principle, that of the responsibility of Christian parents and the claims which every Nonconformist parent has on his child's obedience. This is a responsibility anterior to the claims of the Church; and we ought to be very careful indeed not to do anything which may induce Nonconformist parents to disregard that responsibility, but rather to stimulate their sense of it. (Cheers.) No school can be a proper substitute for the fulfilment of the duties of parents; and I do believe the education we are able to give would be productive of infinitely greater results if the parents did their part—(loud cheers)—and the foremost principle that we ought to put forward is that the parent is the true and proper educator of his child. Is there a man here present who does not recognise what children owe to the authors of their being? to whom the memory of his mother is not a holy thing? Surely we ought to be very careful how we interfere with the rights of Dissenters in this respect. But I must say before I sit down that the Church is left perfectly free by this conscience clause to teach its own principles to children of Churchmen: and I, for one, would not support any conscience clause that would interfere with the consciences of Churchmen. We are not required to ignore any one principle of our Church, but we are not to forget that most important principle that is announced in the Decalogue, that we are to honour our father and mother. I say we are placed in a very critical position at this present moment. At present the Church is the accredited organ of national education in this country, and almost all the children of the poor are submitted to its teaching. If we abandon this privilege or forfeit it we quit our vantage-ground, and shall occupy only the position of a sect. Our teaching may then be as exclusive as we please, but we shall no longer be the national teachers of the infant poor. For my own part I have no hesitation in saying that, for the sake of the Church itself, I should be glad to see the clause objected to introduced into the deeds of all schools erected or supported by public grants. Do not let us do anything, and do not let us say anything, which may either irritate or alienate the State or enable antagonists to say that we are an impracticable body of men. Archdeacon Denison has said, but I trust he will recall it—

Archdeacon Denison: No, I never recall anything. (Laughter.)

Archdeacon Sandford: Then he has said that the way to deal with a Nonconformist who differs from him is to duck him in a horsepond. Now, I must say, as a Christian minister and a Christian gentleman, that this is not the way to deal with our Dissenting brethren. I remember on one occasion one of the curates of my parish coming to me and saying that there was a person

to follow it, and we shall have in all our parishes upon this education something like what is happening with regard to Church-rates. We shall have a School Liberation Society, and we shall have odd-looking men coming down and poking their noses into every parish in England, and saying to us, "I say, what in the way of the schools? Cannot we get up a row with the clergy about the school?" Let us show that the Church of England is no longer to be the master of the people as she has been." As though the Church had ever done anything to coerce or distress the people. I am happy to say that we have no such persons at present in my parish. They are very sensible people at East Brent. One of my vestry told me the other day that if a Liberal were to come among them he would be ducked in the nearest pond.

In the second, all the powers of earth are invoked against this monstrous Conscience Clause:—

I say, in the name of all these—aye, in the name of the whole State, in the name of her Majesty, in the Parliament of England, the Convocation of the Church of England, of all the clergy and all the people, all the Dissenters, do not go on troubling us with the introduction of measures which tend to break down all that confidence which ought perpetually to subsist between the civil power and the Church, making people so doubtful and hesitating as to what is to come next, that rather than be submitted to such innovations and such fears continually, they will be disposed to cut the knot and say, as I have been obliged for eighteen years to say, "No power on earth shall induce me to touch with my little finger one farthing of the Parliamentary grant."

These extracts will give the reader some idea of the spirit in which this battle is to be fought. The Dissenters are to be dealt with as Lady Macbeth dealt with the King whose mere existence troubled her; and meanwhile the Archdeacon, like the three witches, makes the necessary incantation.

No speech could be in greater contrast to this than that of Archdeacon Sandford, who said that he considered the remarks of Mr. Denison as an outrage on Nonconformists—men "as high-minded, honourable, and conscientious" as the Archdeacon himself, and who have as much right to consideration from the Government as Churchmen. "Then," said Dr. Sandford, "he has said that the way to deal with a Nonconformist who differs from him is to duck him in a horsepond. Now, I must say, as a Christian minister and a Christian gentleman, that this is not the way to deal with our Dissenting brethren." But when the division came, Archdeacon Sandford was nowhere, and Mr. Denison was found to have carried Convocation with him.

What impression is such a debate as this likely to make on a Government or on the large mass of the people? Will it make the Church more popular, or statesmen more disposed to yield to its arrogant pretensions? The downright stupidity of the leaders of the Church in all their movements is perfectly marvellous. They seem to think that the only moral weapons that can conquer in this or any other age are the coarsest. Browbeating is never absent from their counsels, nor bullying from their manner, and they actually think that with such weapons they can conquer the world to the Christian religion.

We are glad to see another Archdeacon discussing with coolness and good temper the question of separation of the Church from the State. Archdeacon Bickersteth, of Buckingham, has devoted a great portion of his charge to this subject. A full report is contained in the columns of an able contemporary, the *Bucks Advertiser and Aylesbury News*, which also devotes an article in reply to the Archdeacon's reasoning. Beginning with Church-rates, the venerable clergyman expresses his approval of the astute policy of borrowing money on the security of the rates, whereby they are perpetuated for twenty years, and he congratulates his clergy on the fact that in some cases, "notwithstanding the vigorous efforts of the agents of the Liberation Society," that rates have been passed with little or no opposition on the part of Dissenters, many of whom, he says, "to their honour," are ready to acquiesce in the principle because they feel that the National Church is a material blessing to the community. On which our contemporary naively remarks:—

We venture to say that the smallest possible fraction of the Dissenting body consider the existence of a National—that is, an endowed—Church a "material blessing," or "acquiesce" in the system of Church-rates, only as an escape from still greater evils. It is unfortunate, to say the least, that just at the time when an experiment on the patience of Dissenters is about to be tried by a proposal to raise a sum of money on the security of the Church-rates, the Dissenters should be thus distinctly warned that by refraining from opposition they will be taken as sanctioning the principle of a National Church.

The greater question is alluded to with becoming gravity of language, and a full consciousness of the critical position in which the Establishment as such is placed. The Archdeacon's arguments are, however, not very new. He first refers to the fact that there have been State Establishments of religion

in all ages and all nations, from Sparta (not a very happy instance) downwards. He then says, in significant language:—

We admit, of course, that it is not essential to the existence of such a Church that she should be connected with the State. The Church is a Divine incorporation; her charter is in the skies. The State did not establish the Church, neither can the State unmake her. The State may cast her off, but she would not be one whit the less a Church. The union with the State is an accident of her condition—a matter of secondary importance. It is quite possible that she might expand more freely if these bonds were loosed, and go forth with more energy on her glorious mission if set free from the restraints of the temporal power. But before we indulge in enthusiastic dreams like these, we must consider, not what the Church might possibly gain, but what the State would undoubtedly lose, by the separation.

And then follow the old arguments about the inefficiency of Voluntaryism, and the parental duties of the State. Lastly, the Archdeacon believes that if ever the purposes of the Liberation Society should be accomplished, "Then the days of England would soon be numbered, and the glory of the kingdom, the beauty of Britain's excellency, would be swept with the besom of destruction." Unfortunately, this sort of language has been held too often for it now to frighten even old women. We heard it when the slave-trade was abolished; when capital punishment for stealing five-shillings' worth of goods was done away with; when the Test and Corporation Acts were amended; when the Reform Bill was carried, and when Free Trade became law. It is, therefore, a good omen that it is now being held with regard to what we may call our own question.

Our columns of electoral intelligence show that candidates for the honour of representing the counties and boroughs in Parliament are, with unusual frankness and unanimity, declaring their opinions on ecclesiastical questions. A very few persons, who call themselves Liberals, such as Mr. Akroyd, Mr. Waldegrave Leslie, and Mr. Coleridge, have adopted the Tory theory for the settlement of the Church-rate question. In marked opposition to these, we are glad to notice the address of the candidate for the representation of the Isle of Wight, who, himself a Roman Catholic, avows his unequivocal adhesion to the principles of religious equality, and pledges himself to vote for the abolition of Church-rates and the admission of Dissenters to the Universities. We are given to understand that some of the Nonconformist electors of the island will withhold their support from Sir John Simeon because of his ecclesiastical connections. We hope the report is untrue. Our abhorrence of Roman Catholicism is not to be shown by adopting the principles of the Roman Catholic Church, and punishing a man for his religion. Nonconformists, we trust, have not so learned the doctrines of religious equality. If they can justify such action, they must at the same time justify all the doctrines of ecclesiastical exclusiveness. They must excuse a clergyman who withholds charitable gifts from a family because that family are Dissenters; they must justify the old law that no Dissenter was fit to be a member of Parliament; and must agree in the action of those Churchmen who will not vote for the Liberal candidate because he happens to be a Nonconformist. Such conduct is positively fatal to all the principles of religious equality. We could understand persons not voting for Sir John Simeon because he says that he will not vote for the separation of the Church from the State, but we cannot understand how any Nonconformist who will vote for a State Churchman to represent them in Parliament can refuse to vote for a Roman Catholic. We remember the time when Daniel O'Connell and Richard Lalor Sheil stood on the platform of the Religious Freedom Society, and we know what they did to accomplish the abolition of the Test and Corporation Laws. We had no religious exclusiveness then. Let us have none now. We shall conquer Roman Catholicism in this country as we have conquered it hitherto, by very different weapons from this—by an exhibition of the loftier principles and the larger-heartedness that are consistent only with Protestantism. We shall never conquer it by an exhibition of its own spirit.

There appears in the *Christian Spectator* for this month an article on "Church-rates and the Exemption of Dissenters," in which, in the form of a dialogue between an elector and a candidate, the whole of the argument on the exemption question is dealt with. The article is written in view of the General Election, and for the especial use of those constituencies, such as Exeter, Hastings, and Halifax, in which Liberal candidates are working the plausible exemption theory. It will be seen from an advertisement in our leader page that arrangements have been made for reprinting this article as an electoral tract.

THE NEW SCHEME OF CHURCH EXTENSION.

The following extract from the minutes of the Parliamentary Committee of the "Meeting for Sufferings," in connection with the Society of Friends, supplies information respecting the Companies Workmen's Education Bill, which deserves the attention of Nonconformists generally. The Bill, which was brought in by the Archbishop of York, has passed the House of Lords, where the Archbishop successfully resisted a proposal of Earl Granville's that the trustees of all schools established under the Act should contain a "conscience clause," to prevent the exclusion of Nonconformist children.

The attention of the Parliamentary committee of the Meeting for Sufferings has been drawn to a bill, brought in by the Archbishop of York, which has passed the House of Lords, entitled, "An act to enable companies and corporations to provide for the education and religious instruction of the families of their workmen."

This bill provides that a majority of three-fourths of the shareholders of any joint-stock company or corporation present or voting by proxy may resolve that any sum of money, not exceeding that of which notice shall have been duly given in convening such meeting, shall be applied either in gross or annually for such period as they may resolve, in providing for the education, worship, or religious instruction of the families of the persons employed by them; and they may also resolve that any land, not exceeding an acre in any one vote, shall be granted or appropriated in perpetuity or otherwise for any of the purposes aforesaid; and thereupon the directors or other persons authorised to manage the affairs of the company or corporation shall carry such vote into effect.

It is apparent that in the appropriation of the companies' money to the religious instruction and worship of the families of workmen, a new principle of the gravest character is introduced into the management of these companies. It is at present quite competent to the proprietors in their individual character to subscribe voluntarily for all these purposes without an act of Parliament, but the act is to empower a compulsory maintenance for purposes of religion which must be very painful to individual consciences by their compelled to maintain a form of worship and the teaching of doctrines from which they conscientiously dissent.

The magnitude of the powers thus proposed to be vested in meetings of shareholders to vote away the capital of the company to other uses than that for which it was subscribed, may not be within the province of the Meeting for Sufferings to deal with, but the establishing a vast machinery for religious purposes is very likely to place our members in a position of considerable difficulty, from which they will not find it easy to obtain relief.

We would therefore suggest to our members the expediency of at once seeking an interview with their representatives, and urging upon them the most strenuous opposition, in its present form, to the "Companies Workmen's Education Bill."

OPINIONS OF CANDIDATES ON ECCLESIASTICAL QUESTIONS.

We give a few extracts this week bearing on ecclesiastical questions, from such addresses of candidates as have come before us, and shall continue them in future numbers:—

(CHARLES BUXTON, EAST SURREY.)

I regard Church-rates as unjust to Dissenters and mischievous to the church.

I disapprove of all oaths except those required in courts of justice. Those enforced specially on Roman Catholics seem to me at once insulting and futile.

Taking a deep interest in the spread of education, I would relax those restrictions which keep several thousands of poor schools from receiving Government grants. I am against imposing rates for purposes of education. I am strongly in favour of the "Conscience Clause."

In Ireland, the two questions of the tenure of land and the position of the Established Church press for settlement.

(W. H. SMITH, CONSERVATIVE, WESTMINSTER.)

As a sincere member of the Established Church, I believe the cultivation of the most kindly feelings towards those who dissent from its communion to be essential to its peace and prosperity. I earnestly hope, therefore, that means may be found for settling equitably and amicably the question of Church-rates, as I am unwilling to consent to their unconditional abolition.

(SIR JOHN SIMEON, LIBERAL, ISLE OF WIGHT.)

You will allow me to recall to your remembrance the circumstances under which, with the deepest regret, I retired from the representation of the island. In 1851 I became a Catholic, and felt it my duty to resign into your hands a trust which had been reposed in me as a member of the Established Church. Since that time I have been constantly resident amongst you, and I venture to hope that I may have shown that the profession of the faith to which I belong in no respect incapacitates an Englishman from a useful participation in the administration of the social and political institutions, in the working of which we are all of us called to take more or less prominently a part.

Deeply and unalterably attached as I am to the constitution of our country, I have no desire to disturb or undermine the existing relations between the State and the Church of England. I must, at the same time, express my honest belief that that Church would be in no respect weakened, were it, by the abolition of Church-rates, to be deprived of the unwilling contributions of those who do not participate in its worship.

(SIR CHARLES LOOCK, CONSERVATIVE, ISLE OF WIGHT.)

Whilst declaring myself a decided member of the Established Church, I am anxious to give to all that freedom of conscience which I claim to exercise for myself.

(H. ST. JOHN MILDWAY, LIBERAL-CONSERVATIVE, NORTH HANTS.)

I am a sincere member of the Protestant Established Church, and shall always oppose any measure which I consider would be detrimental to her interests. I should be willing to receive favourably proposals by which the difficult and vexatious question of Church-rates could be brought to a satisfactory arrangement; but I should

refuse to consent to any which would involve an unconditional abolition of them.

(F. A. MILBANK, LIBERAL, NORTH RIDING.)

I am a sincere member of the Church of England, and as such I earnestly desire the removal of all causes of bitterness betwixt its members and those of different religious persuasions. I would abolish all invidious distinctions and tests; and with regard to Church-rates, as I have before said, so I now repeat, that I should rejoice if any measure for the due maintenance of those sacred edifices, reared and bequeathed to us by the piety of our ancestors, could be adopted that would satisfy reasonable wishes and views; but failing this, I would say, let this vexed question be at once and for ever removed.

(G. F. HOLROYD, CONSERVATIVE, NORTHAMPTON.)

I am warmly attached to the Established Church, and determined to resist any encroachment upon her privileges. I am, however, disposed to adopt a conciliatory policy towards those who dissent from her views, so long as they, upon their part, are willing to treat disputed questions in the same spirit.

(HON. W. G. DUNCOMBE, CONSERVATIVE, NORTH RIDING.)

Should you again honour me with a renewal of that confidence and support which I now solicit at your hands, I shall continue to oppose every attempt to diminish the rights or impair the influence of the Established Church; whilst I shall support all measures for increasing her usefulness, which are consistent with the great principle of religious liberty, to all classes of my countrymen.

(SIR W. W. BEACH, CONSERVATIVE, NORTH HANTS.)

I am a stedfast adherent to our Protestant institutions. I have supported every proposal which afforded a reasonable hope for the amicable settlement of the question of Church-rates.

(H. C. E. CHILDERES, LIBERAL, PONTEFRACT.)

I am myself a member of the Church of England, and I would never consent for a moment to do anything which would injure that Church so far as her rights go as the Established Church of the country; but on the other hand, I do not believe that her present position, in regard, for instance, to the question of Church-rates, is a satisfactory one. I am sure it has been shown in those places where the payment of these rates is not enforced, that the Church gains a great deal by that system, and I am prepared as a Churchman, and in the interest of the Church, irrespective of the proper rights of those who do not belong to her communion, to see the question settled in the manner in which, as I then stated, I wished to see it settled when you returned me to Parliament, and in which before many years I hope I shall see it settled. I believe that if the Church came forward and proposed that solution of the question which is inevitable, she would be herself the greater gainer by such course.

(SIR H. D. WOLFE, CONSERVATIVE, DORCHESTER.)

I consider the Church as an essential element in our Constitution, and I would repel to the last any endeavour to separate Church from State.

(MR. PHILLIPS, LIBERAL, FINSBURY.)

As a Churchman he was opposed to Church-rates. He desired the Church to be reformed, but he wished the Church to be reformed by itself. At present he was sorry to say the Church was scarcely the Church for the poor, for except in the Roman Catholic and the Dissenting chapels, you in very rare instances saw the working people congregate. All compromises in regard to the rates having failed, he, as a Church of England man, should abolish them without compromise, and if they were abolished, he was confident the Church would be far stronger than it was at this moment. Whenever the voluntary principle was put to the test, it had come out successful, and it would be so in the matter of Church support.

(THE HON. L. BRAND, LIBERAL, LEWES.)

I hold that our constitution would derive renewed vigour through judicious reforms in our representative system in accordance with the progress of society, and our Church, of which I am an attached member, would be strengthened, and its true interests promoted, by the removal of the vexatious impost of a compulsory rate.

(J. E. GORST, CONSERVATIVE, HAS TINGS.)

Being myself a member of the Church of England, I desire that all other religious communities should enjoy as much freedom as is consistent with the safety of our constitution, and that all sources of irritation between them and the Church of England should be if possible removed. I do not think that the Church of Rome should, under the plea of religious liberty, be suffered to acquire political power within the realm.

(P. F. ROBERTSON, CONSERVATIVE, HASTINGS.)

I regard our Established Church as a great bulwark against Rome—a great defence against infidelity—and most valuable for the maintenance of our civil and religious liberties, and my best assistance would be given to all measures tending to increase her efficiency and usefulness; and at the same time I would always be prepared to support any arrangement which appears likely to secure the liberty and afford scope for the valuable labours of other branches of the Christian Church in the land; but all aggressions on the part of the Papacy, or attempts to obtain any control over the civil power by the clergy of the Church of Rome, I would decidedly oppose. I am in favour of official inspection of convents, if any such institutions are to be permitted in this country.

(MAJOR DICKSON, CONSERVATIVE, DOVER.)

I am opposed to Church-rates. For one reason, because they are liable to create a feeling of hostility and animosity towards the Church; for another, because they are regarded as a burden which ought not to be borne by a very large and important class of the community.

(LORD BURY, LIBERAL, DOVER.)

To refer to one great topic on which you are interested—the question of Church-rates—a great deal has been said in favour of Mr. Freshfield's view—a compromise that shall be at once acceptable to Dissenters and Churchmen. There is not such a course; there is no middle course. The only course open to you is to remove Church-rates altogether. By their abolition every clergyman in the Church of England would find his hands strengthened and his power of persuasiveness in this direction increased.

(EUSTACE SMITH, LIBERAL, DOVER.)

Although a member of the Church of England, he desired to see Church-rates abolished, all attempts at compromise having failed.

(F. W. TRUSCOTT, LIBERAL-CONSERVATIVE, DUDLEY.)

The question of Church-rates, is one which should be definitively settled. The heartburning and discontent engendered by their continuance are in direct antagonism to that spirit of true Christianity of which the Church universal is at once the authority and the teacher. If no satisfactory adjustment be possible, it were better that the maintenance of the Church should depend on the voluntary support of Churchmen rather than an impost should be perpetuated obnoxious to the conscientious scruples of our Dissenting brethren.

DISSENTERS AND THE GENERAL ELECTION.

(From the *Freeman*.)

We take it to be the greatest service we can render the country just now—the special work of the few weeks now before us—to secure the election of a small band of Nonconformists who can maintain a debate. Like Mr. Morley, we have no wish to divide the Liberals; but, also like him, we think that it would do Liberalism no harm, but probably much good, to try the Opposition benches for a time. Liberals in a minority in the House, would be of not the least disadvantage to us. Tories in office could do no injury, while languid Liberals would brace their political health by rustication, or by the Arctic temperature of the Speaker's left, and would invigorate their political muscles by struggles to do something politically better than standing still. Let office go to those who can get most votes from the miserable fraction of British citizens who now possess them. We want just now not votes, but voices. We write deliberately when we say, we would rather return three or four zealous and competent advocates of Religious Equality to the House of Commons at this election, than a hundred majority for the "genial old man," the "good hearty fellow of eighty." The former would indefinitely advance the knowledge and the truly Liberal principles of the nation, and lay a firm foundation for increasingly energetic action; the strong majority for Palmerston would be a majority for seven years more of political inanity. Let Dissenters clear their vision. Let them look impartially at Palmerstonian Liberalism, and ask whether it ought not to be extinguished; if it is Toryism under a false name, then in the name of honesty let the majority of the House take its right name; let the real Liberals be sifted out, and appear the minority which they at present are. In that capacity they will show themselves men; and the political Lord Dundrearies will simper on the Tory benches, or better still, in their clubs.

In appealing to our friends to beatir themselves for the return of a debating force of the kind suggested, at this election, we know that where it is attempted they will be met at once by the prejudices of Liberal Churchmen. These worthy men like our aid; but too many of them, partly through our own supineness, have come to think that they are not to give us theirs. We are bound to deal fairly with habits we have too much fostered, but we must no longer indulge them. If they are, as they profess to be, firmly attached to religious as well as civil liberty, and if on that ground they claim our support, they may be reminded that we ought to have a few members in the House, the best qualified we can find, to exhibit and defend our view of religious liberty. They have a superabundance of plaudits for their limited conception of it, and they cannot deny that our more advanced demands ought to be fully and fairly heard. There is much said at this time respecting the right of minorities to representation; and the chief contention is whether they are best represented on the present system, or whether a formal arrangement to effect that object is not desirable. By such an arrangement as Mr. Hare's for instance, Nonconformists could return their best men—their best speakers we mean; but if Liberal Churchmen everywhere refuse our best candidates, it is clear, that large as the Dissenting minority is, it is not fairly represented—not represented by the men it prefers. Will a candid Liberal Churchman deny that we are entitled, though a minority in any individual constituency, or in the Liberal constituency as a whole, to be represented? If he cannot, can he deny that he and his friends ought not everywhere to refuse our representative men? Liberal Churchmen must acknowledge that subjects connected with religious liberty and equality are certain to be prominent in the debates of the House of Commons; they ought to wish that Dissenters, sure enough to be outvoted, should not be forbidden to speak.

Churchmen should be reminded that Dissenters universally have no wish, were it in their power, to coerce them into concession. Dissenters do not believe in physical force. They wish to convince, not to overbear. They would not resort to tumult and vulgar uproar, for they wish to rest their cause on its merits only. They are so sure of having truth on their side, that they only ask fair opportunity for placing it before the public mind. In this they resemble the Free-traders, of whose great principle that of religious equality may, indeed, be regarded as the religious development. It may take long, we may tell our Liberal Churchmen, to disabuse them of religious protectionist notions, but that they will ultimately be disabused, we can no more doubt than did Richard Cobden in the parallel case. Hence our patience. But if unfairly refused a hearing, we may become impatient; we may even be driven to desert (not to vote against) Liberals who deny us fair liberty of speech. Nothing would make us factious supporters of Tories; but we may be compelled to feel that Liberals who treat us with selfish one-sided illiberalism, may justly be left to shift for themselves. They ought to suffer the penalty of wishing to engross the representation; and, where Liberals can return two members, to find that Churchmen determining to return both belong to the class of the proverbial fools who do not know that the half is more than the whole.

ARCHDEACON SANDFORD, THE CONSCIENCE CLAUSE, AND DISSENTERS.

At the recent meeting of the Convocation of the Province of Canterbury there was a protracted debate on the conscience clause which the Committee of Council seek to impose on the National Society. Arch-

deacon Denison took the lead against the clause, and was supported by quite an array of Church dignitaries. The Rev. Sir Henry Thompson moved as an amendment:—

That this House approves of the principles of a conscience clause, subject to the following limitation:—That the reading of the Holy Scriptures and the learning of the Apostles' creed, Lord's Prayer, and the Ten Commandments be made compulsory on all the children.

The amendment was lost on a division, and the Archdeacon's resolution declared to be carried. In seconding the amendment, Archdeacon Sandford made a noticeable speech. He said he believed that Nonconformists were as anxious to educate their children religiously as himself.

It has been stated, and I grieved to read it, that so long as reading, writing, and arithmetic are taught in our schools, Dissenting parents are quite indifferent as to religion; but I do not believe this to be the case. It may be that many are content to trust to the influences of home and the teaching of the Lord's-day for religion. Mr. Binney, an eminent Dissenting minister, stated lately in a noble sermon preached on the occasion of the death of the Duke of Northumberland, that his object in supporting the conscience clause was that if the child of a Dissenter was called upon to repeat the whole of the catechism he would be made to say that which in his individual case was not the truth. I believe the Government of this country is most anxious to promote the welfare of the Established Church, but they are the guardians of the civil and religious rights of the entire people. They are responsible for the proper distribution of the funds of the country, and as Dissenters have concessions as well as Churchmen, and as they pay taxes as well as Churchmen, so the Government must have regard for Nonconformists as well as for Churchmen. Thus they give in large parishes assistance to Dissenting as well as the Church schools; and where there is but a small body of Dissenters, they do not ask for the adoption of the conscience clause. I think it is a very strong argument in favour of this clause, that Nonconformists may have a large number of children in a parish and yet not be able to raise a school of their own, inasmuch as they are generally poor—so that it would be a great hardship if they could not have the advantages of those schools—which, by the way, are national schools.

Canon Riddell: National schools on the principle of the national Church.

Archdeacon Sandford: Yes, but that does not extinguish the rights of others. The Government will give assistance to schools established on the most ultra-Church principles, but it is always on the condition that the consciences and rights of Dissenters are respected. I will read a passage or two from a pamphlet lately published by Canon Seymour to show the view taken by some of these ultra-Church managers of schools:—"I alone (a clergyman is represented as saying) have responsibility for these children's souls, and I cannot escape that responsibility except by their wilful and deliberate rejection of it. If I am to do them any real good you must trust them to me entirely, not only during the week but also on the Lord's-day." I consider that a monstrous assumption. Again I read—"The children of Dissenters, if their parents request it, are exempted from attendance at the Sunday-school and the church; but they must receive the same religious instruction as the other children."

Canon Seymour: I must request the Archdeacon—

Archdeacon Sandford: I was going on to say that my rev. friend—than whom no man can be more ingenuous and fair—states these as the views of a great body of the clergy, but adds that his own practice is not to insist on the children of Dissenters going to church. I do not know whether in his schools they are taught the whole Catechism. Both these statements are put forward in this pamphlet, which, however, seems to ignore a very important principle, that of the responsibility of Christian parents and the claims which every Nonconformist parent has on his child's obedience. This is a responsibility anterior to the claims of the Church; and we ought to be very careful indeed not to do anything which may induce Nonconformist parents to disregard that responsibility, but rather to stimulate their sense of it. (Cheers.) No school can be a proper substitute for the fulfilment of the duties of parents; and I do believe the education we are able to give would be productive of infinitely greater results if the parents did their part—(loud cheers)—and the foremost principle that we ought to put forward is that the parent is the true and proper educator of his child. Is there a man here present who does not recognise what children owe to the authors of their being? to whom the memory of his mother is not a holy thing? Surely we ought to be very careful how we interfere with the rights of Dissenters in this respect. But I must say before I sit down that the Church is left perfectly free by this conscience clause to teach its own principles to children of Churchmen: and I, for one, would not support any conscience clause that would interfere with the consciences of Churchmen. We are not required to ignore any one principle of our Church, but we are not to forget that most important principle that is announced in the Decalogue, that we are to honour our father and mother. I say we are placed in a very critical position at this present moment. At present the Church is the accredited organ of national education in this country, and almost all the children of the poor are submitted to its teaching. If we abandon this privilege or forfeit it we quit our vantage-ground, and shall occupy only the position of a sect. Our teaching may then be as exclusive as we please, but we shall no longer be the national teachers of the infant poor. For my own part I have no hesitation in saying that, for the sake of the Church itself, I should be glad to see the clause objected to introduced into the deeds of all schools erected or supported by public grants. Do not let us do anything, and do not let us say anything, which may either irritate or alienate the State or enable antagonists to say that we are an impracticable body of men. Archdeacon Denison has said, but I trust he will recall it—

Archdeacon Denison: No, I never recall anything. (Laughter.)

Archdeacon Sandford: Then he has said that the way to deal with a Nonconformist who differs from him is to duck him in a horsepond. Now, I must say, as a Christian minister and a Christian gentleman, that this is not the way to deal with our Dissenting brethren. I remember on one occasion one of the curates of my parish coming to me and saying that there was a person

at the Cross preaching Dissenting doctrines and abusing the Church. I went and stood behind him, and when he had done I addressed the people, and endeavoured to show the fallacies of his views. Depend upon it, the only way is to exercise a comprehensive charity. I say, let us do our best to impart to the children of our people that portion of Divine teaching of which Sir Henry Thompson has spoken; let us imbue them with the Ten Commandments and the Creeds; let us teach them to understand and use from the heart the Lord's Prayer; let us endeavour to make them not merely hearers but doers of the word. It grieves my heart when I think how little we really effect in our schools, and how often the children of Church people turned out of our schools are forgetful and regardless of those principles that we ought to have imparted to them at school. Let us, then, do our best to instruct our own children in the fear of God and the love of God and of His Son Jesus Christ, and let us have respect to the consciences and scruples of our Nonconformist brethren. A liberal man, it is said, deviseth liberal things, and by liberal things he shall stand. We should refuse no concessions which, were our position reversed, we should demand for ourselves. With this conviction I support the amendment.

THE SCOTTISH GENERAL ASSEMBLIES.

The sittings of the General Assemblies of the Established and Free Churches of Scotland have both been closed, that of the first-named on Monday last week, and that of the latter on Tuesday evening. One of the most important matters discussed in the Assembly of the National Church, was an overture brought forward by Dr. Lee, for the release of elders from the obligation of subscribing the Confession of Faith. Dr. Norman Macleod and Principal Tulloch supported the overture, which was opposed by Dr. Macpherson, Dr. Pirie, Dr. Gillan, Professor Crawford, and others. One of these opposition speakers having attacked the English Ecclesiastical Courts, Dr. Lee, in reply, defended them.

He said, it may be that the law of the Church of England is a bad one. It may be that it is too lax, or that it is indefinite, or that it ought to require various things which it does not require; but I maintain that these courts are incomparably better qualified to decide on ecclesiastical law than any Courts which we possess or are likely to possess. It is very true that the decisions they give are not such as many clergymen would give—so much the better. The judges of these courts, are not partisans or parties, as we must necessarily be here. (A hiss.) Whatever may be said of the ecclesiastical law of England, I maintain that its judges are men qualified to give impartial decisions; and I have no doubt infinitely more impartial than any judgments proceeding from ecclesiastical judges.

On a division, Dr. Lee's motion was rejected by a majority of 130 to 28. The same evening, the remaining business was disposed of, and the Moderator (Dr. Macfarlane) delivered his closing address, reviewing the proceedings of the Assembly and the general position of ecclesiastical questions. He held that the cry for Convocation in the English Church, and the organisation of the Congregational Union among Independents, were movements in the direction of Presbytery. In Scotland the great proportion of their seceding brethren had not separated themselves from the form, he had almost said from the creed, of their own Presbyterian Church. He went on to show that this Scottish attachment to Presbyterianism had been unaffected by the union with England. Having next deprecated the innovation movement, he closed with warm declarations of attachment to the Queen. The Lord High Commissioner having responded, the next Assembly was appointed to meet on the 24th of May, 1866.

The Free Church Assembly, on the recommendation of the Committee on the Refusal of Sites, resolved to petition Parliament on behalf of the people of Shiel-dag, in Wester Ross, prevented from erecting a place of worship by Vice-Chancellor Stuart. The assembly adopted a fraternal address to the Evangelical Churches of America. In answer to a question of Lord Dalhousie, the Moderator (Dr. Begg) stated that in his opening address he had not, as had been supposed, imputed to the Established clergy feelings similar to those which animated the Jews in derisively hailing Christ as King, but had simply meant to exhibit the contrast between the professed and real allegiance to the Head of the Church. Dr. Begg then delivered the closing address, which occupied about two hours, and dwelt on a great variety of topics,—among others on the innovation movement. In doing so, he strongly censured the introduction of instrumental music in churches. If (he said) organs are allowed in our parish churches it is a clear violation of the Revolution Settlement, and, being accomplished without the authority of Parliament, rather serious questions arise. Are the civil authorities doing their duty in allowing this illegal procedure? Will the people of Scotland be any longer bound to uphold an Establishment where it is thus so essentially and illegally altered. The next Assembly was appointed to meet at Edinburgh on the 24th of May, 1866.

The annual conference of the Methodist New Connexion was opened on Monday morning, in Hood-street Chapel, Newcastle.

The Rev. A. K. H. Boyd, D.D., has been appointed to the first charge of the church and parish of St. Andrews, in the Presbytery of St. Andrews and county of Fife.—*Observer*.

The Rev. W. M. Punshon is, and has been for some time, suffering from illness of a serious character, consequent, it is stated, on his incessant ministerial labours.—*Bristol Daily Post*.

THE LAHORE BISHOPRIC BILL, brought in by Sir Charles Wood, and the drift of which has been already described in our columns, has, we are happy to learn, been withdrawn.

ECCLESIASTICAL INNOVATING IN SCOTLAND.—The congregation of the Rev. Dr. Lee, Old Greyfriars, Edinburgh, have held a meeting on the "innovations" question. They passed resolutions expressing regret at the recent decision of the General Assembly, and approval of the stand taken by Dr. Lee. They "trust that he will persevere in the good work, and that his efforts will yet be crowned with success."

EDINBURGH ANNUITY TAX.—On Friday last the "clerical lorry" was again busy; the houses of various Dissenters were visited, and furniture, timewares, jewellery, &c., carried off in payment of the ministers' money. Among the other victims was Mr. Thomas Knox, J.P., well known throughout the country as a temperance reformer. It may readily be imagined that these scenes do not improve the chances of Mr. Adam Black and the Lord-Advocate at the ensuing election.

ORGANS IN SCOTLAND.—A letter in the *Times* attributes Scottish antipathy to church organs to the fact that in Popish times the front of the organ was the place where images of saints were fixed, and the organ itself thence came to be regarded by the Puritans as the especial representation of Papal abominations. When the opportunity presented itself the organs in Scotland, with their hateful images, were utterly demolished by the people. Succeeding generations grew up with the memory of the hatred, but not of its foundation.

PUSEYISM IN THE METROPOLIS.—We now have in London no less than eighty-seven churches and nineteen mission chapels where all of the late Bishop's objections are absolutely ignored, and in many of which there is a daily "celebration of Holy Communion," as well as daily services, these "services" being intoned, and the service sung as well as the prayers and psalms. Whilst Dr. Blomfield was the of this vast metropolis these things were done in a corner, but now Puseyism is holding her head bravely, and so long as Bishop Tait kindly helps her along, she needs no other aid.—*Morning Advertiser*.

DR. MANNING, the titular Roman Catholic archbishop elect of Westminster, is now at St. Joseph's Monastery, near Highgate, a house belonging to the Passionist Fathers, where he is making his "retreat" preparatory to being consecrated to-morrow (the 8th inst.). The ceremony will take place at Moorfields Chapel, the consecrating bishop being Dr. Ullathorne, of Birmingham, assisted by Dr. Grant, of Southwark, and Dr. Turner, of Salford. It is now said at Rome that Dr. Manning will be named cardinal shortly after he has been raised to the rank of bishop.

THE CONSCIENCE CLAUSE.—In the four years 1861—1864 there were seventy-one cases in which the educational department of the Privy Council objected to make a grant towards the building of a National or Church of England school on the ground that children of Dissenters might be excluded from it. In forty-one of these instances the promoters removed this objection by agreeing to insert a conscience clause. Eight are marked "No answer." The proportion of Dissenters in the parish or district varied from four per cent. to seventy-five per cent.; in half the Welsh parishes and in some of the English they formed a majority of the population. The population ranged from 275 to 10,960.

WESLEYANS AND THE STATE CHURCH.—A "Wesleyan Minister," writing to the *Watchman* on the subject of Mr. Wagner's "confession" of Constance Kent, makes the following remarks as to the lesson which such doings by a clergyman should teach Wesleyan Methodists concerning their relation and behaviour to the Church in which such things are tolerated, if not encouraged:—

If it be true that thousands of her clergy and laity are renouncing her connection with the Reformation as a Protestant Church, for the purpose of sustaining such practices as those of Mr. Wagner, and are willing to go with him to prison and to death in support of the "seal of confession," we shall some of us want to know what part have we in her which is a reason for even a theoretical adhesion to her as a national institution? We have long supposed that this was found in her Protestantism. This is fast ceasing to be correct: the reverse is becoming the fact; and the clergy and laity, it seems, are prepared for the loss of liberty or life in support of the institutions and canons of Popery. Indeed we may ask, Against what do the courts, the clergy, and thousands of the laity now protest? And the answer is, Principally against Nonconformity. Infidels, Papists, and formalists may preach in her pulpits, fatten on her funds, and join in prosecuting in the most paltry forms all who refuse to conform, until, in some cases, they can scarcely either worship at chapel or live at home.

THE GLAMORGANSHIRE CONGREGATIONAL ASSOCIATION.—This association met on the 31st of May and the 1st of June, at Mountain Ash. There were present about eighty ministers, a large number of lay preachers, and delegates from the churches. Dr. Rees, of Swansea, was unanimously voted to the chair. Many topics connected with the welfare of the denomination were discussed and satisfactorily settled, and it was resolved to appoint the Rev. John Thomas, of the Tabernacle, Liverpool, R. Jones, Esq., of Llanfyllin, and Mr. J. Griffiths, of London, to represent the association in the Congregational convention to be held at Boston. A further resolution was also passed, in reference to American affairs, as follows:—

That this association greatly rejoices at the termination of the war in America, gratefully acknowledges the persistent and successful efforts of the North to extirpate the hateful curse of slavery, hails the restoration of the Union with joy and thankfulness, deeply sympathises with the people and the Government of the United States in the sorrow for the recent and base assassination of one of the wisest, noblest, most honest, and most tender-hearted men that ever governed the United States, or any other country, admires the quiet and just manner in which the Government was carried on at so dangerous a crisis, and notwithstanding a catastrophe so unexpected and appalling, and earnestly trusts that the future of the Union will be worthy of the glorious history to which

the American people can lay claim from the first landing of the Pilgrim Fathers on the shores of the Western continent until now; and desires our representatives to carry this resolution to our beloved brethren at the Boston convention.

A resolution of sympathy with the family of the late W. D. Wills, of Bristol, was adopted. On the first evening sermons were delivered in some fifteen chapels belonging to various denominations, and on the second day the services were conducted in the open air. There were present from five to six thousand people, who appeared to have been deeply impressed.

Religious Intelligence.

THE FREE CHURCHES OF LONDON AND CHRISTIAN WORK.

XVIII.

STEPNEY AND MILE-END NEW TOWN.

Stepney, which in early times comprised Bethnal-green, Spitalfields, St. George's-in-the-East, White-chapel, Bow, Poplar, Wapping, and Shadwell—all which districts have been cut off from it—is still one of the largest parishes of London; numbering at the present time more than 100,000 souls. It was once a rural village, some distance from the metropolis of which it now forms a part, and the parish church is one of the oldest in the country. Dean Colet, who founded St. Paul's School, was one of its vicars; so also was Richard Pace, the friend of Erasmus. Its very spacious churchyard, long since closed for burial purposes, has still an antique look. Stepney Union now embraces Mile-end Old Town, and that part of Ratcliff which lies between the Commercial-road and the Thames—Mile-end New Town, being now included in Whitechapel Union.

By far the largest of these districts is Mile-end Old Town, which is the central part of the parish, and comprised about three-fourths of the population, or 73,064 souls, in 1861. The inhabitants are of a mixed character. There is a fair sprinkling of people in comfortable circumstances; a large number of thriving shopkeepers, especially along the Commercial-road, which is the southern boundary of the hamlet; many people engaged in business in the City; a host of clerks and other employés; and towards Ratcliff, a numerous colony of captains, seamen, and persons engaged in the neighbouring docks. The wealthier class have long since, with a few bright exceptions, left the district for suburban residence.

This parish, with an ecclesiastical district of some 40,000 souls, was for five years without a legal spiritual head. In the *City Mission Magazine* for May, 1858, we find the following paragraph:—"The Rector, for the last few years, has been non-resident, and the living has been sequestered for debt, notwithstanding that the value of the living was returned officially, some years, as amounting to the large sum of £1,190 per annum, with a house of residence. The value has no doubt since decreased, and it is subject to deductions for curates; but still it is large, as compared with that of most churches. What a population is this, to be entrusted to the care of one church, and especially to a church so unfortunately circumstanced!" Happily, the entrusting this large population to the care of one church is no more than a legal fiction. The Rector, however, having made some arrangement with his creditors, returned to his charge some years ago, but we do not learn that the effect upon his parishioners has been at all remarkable. There are also four or five district churches, one of which at least is of a Tractarian complexion. Our readers may remember a recent great scandal that arose in connection with the clergyman of one of these churches, which obliged the interference of the Bishop. To this locality is to be removed, when either Archdeacon Hale withdraws his opposition, or Parliament neutralises it, the church, or rather the endowments, of St. Benet's Sherehog, one of the useless City churches marked for demolition under the new Act. A site has already been secured for that purpose. In this "sadly-neglected hamlet," as the *City Mission Magazine* calls it, is also to be built a new church under the Bishop of London's Fund.

The traveller on the North London Railway, as he rounds the bend of the line at Stepney Junction, and casts his eye over the vast expanse of brick and mortar City-wards, can hardly fail to notice, almost alongside the venerable tower of Stepney Church, the lofty and elegant spire of a very large place of worship; and if he knew—for he would hardly suspect—that this imposing modern building, looking down as it were upon the adjoining antique pile, is the Stepney Meeting-house, he might naturally compare the ecclesiastical position of the country

two hundred years ago with that of the present day. The venerable parish church appears to be much as it was. Its vitality as a Christian institution now does not in a very marked degree contrast with its condition in days of yore. But the old Stepney Meeting-house—so redolent of associations connected with Henry Burton, the founder of the church worshipping there, who in the reign of Charles I. stood on the pillory at Westminster, and had his ears cut off for his Puritan steadfastness; of William Greenhill, who was its pastor during the critical period from 1644 to 1671; and of Matthew Mead, his successor, who had previously been an exile for conscience' sake—is gone, and has renewed its life in the imposing structure which now challenges general admiration, alike for the beauty of its exterior and its interior grace and finish. There are very few chapels in the metropolis which will compare with the new Stepney Meeting in architectural excellence and capacity—not many that surpass it for the extent, vitality, and variety of its Christian agencies. There is no provision—because, happily, no need—in the new building for a suite of apartments over the ceiling, as in the Old Meeting, that the church may conduct its devotions in perfect retirement. It is quite refreshing, in one's wanderings through London, to come upon so beautiful a sanctuary, standing in the midst of extensive school buildings—a complete establishment of educational agencies, religious and secular. Stepney Meeting may almost be said to be the Nonconformist cathedral of Eastern London. The resolution to replace the Old Meeting with a new one which would be worthy of its repute, was taken early in 1861. The foundation stone was laid on the true Bicentenary of St. Bartholomew, 1662 (Sept. 5th, 1862, old style Bicentenary), and it was opened for public worship Oct. 22nd, 1863. The entire cost, including 1,000/- for site and some 200/- for the inclosure of the old site, was about 12,000/-. This very large outlay was promptly met. On the first Sunday on which the new chapel was opened for Divine worship, the pastor, the Rev. John Kennedy, M.A., had the pleasure of announcing that the entire cost had been provided for. Stepney Meeting is a centre of spiritual and educational life to the district around. Capable of holding 1,400 people, it is well filled on the Lord's-day, and its galleries are thronged by real working men and their families. Its Sunday-schools, including senior and infant classes, provide instruction for about 1,200 children. Its extensive day schools, which educate about the same number of scholars, are equal to any of their order in the metropolis—superior to most.

The Stepney Meeting Home Mission has since 1856 supported two missionaries, one-third of the salary of one of them being paid by the London City Mission. These missionaries labour among a destitute population of some five thousand souls. The cost of this agency is about 160/- per annum. One of the missionaries has a branch Sunday-school and mission room in Silver-street with 100 children, week-day and Sunday-evening services, and a prosperous working men's institute. The second carries on his labours in Limehouse-fields, a wretched district adjoining Stepney Church; where also is located Carr-street Ragged School, one of the best and most efficient in London. It is conducted by a general committee, but is mainly dependent upon Stepney Meeting both for the living and the money power. In this excellent institution from 600 to 700 children receive instruction on Sunday or the week day, and enjoy the advantages of its varied agencies, including a savings' bank. The work of the district missionaries employed by the Stepney Meeting congregation is supplemented by a Christian Instruction Society, which has some 1,400 families under visitation, by cottage-meetings conducted by ladies, and by the usual organisations for relieving distress, visiting the sick, and helping the poor to help themselves. A juvenile auxiliary raises from 60/- to 70/- a-year for the British and Foreign Sailors Society, the labours of which institution are peculiarly needed in that river-side neighbourhood. Stepney Meeting is also in a fair way of becoming a mother church. Burdett-road, Bow Common, is a new region springing up on the eastern outskirts of the parish, destitute of religious accommodation beyond a highly Tractarian Church. Impressed with the necessity of doing something to provide for its spiritual wants, Mr. Kennedy took on himself last year the responsibility of purchasing a very eligible site for 600/-, and has been sustained by Mr. Morley, the Committee of the Chapel Building Society, and his own friends at Stepney. A committee of various ministers and laymen has been formed, who are now entering into a contract for the erection of a new

chapel to seat nearly 900 persons. The cost will be about 3,500/-, towards which 1,720/- has been promised. This will be one of the twelve mission chapels—four are now arranged for in East London—towards which Mr. Morley has offered to contribute 500/- each, and the Chapel Building Society 500/. The amount contributed also includes 250/- from Mr. J. R. Mills, M.P. (part of a gift of 1,000/-), and 100/-, a third part of a vote by the Congregational Union. There is a good prospect that within a few years a self-supporting congregation will be gathered to this new sanctuary.

Wycliffe Chapel, Commercial-road, so long the scene of the labours of the late Rev. Dr. Reed, is also in Stepney parish. The present pastor is the Rev. Walter Hardie, M.A., who has been able to resuscitate a church and congregation which had been considerably diminished and enfeebled. Mr. Hardie's people sustain a City Missionary; an Evangelist (in part) in connection with the London Congregational Association; a Bible-woman; and a Missionary to the Police. The Sunday-schools of Wycliffe Chapel educate 650 children; the day-schools some 600; and there is also connected with it a ragged-school, with a penny bank, which receives annually about 250/-. Some of the members of the church undertake a lodging-house service, and twenty-four are engaged in visiting the poor and distributing tracts. The congregation maintain their special reputation for philanthropy by subscribing some 600/- a-year for orphan institutions. Not far from Wycliffe Chapel are St. Andrew's Church, in connexion with the Scotch Establishment, and John Knox's Church, belonging to the "Free" section. The latter is between Stepney Meeting and Wycliffe Chapel, the Rev. J. Keedy being the minister. Latimer Chapel (the Rev. H. Hooper, pastor) is not far from Stepney Meeting, and has good school-rooms, with a full attendance both on Sundays and week days. Zion New Chapel, near Mile-end-gate, of which the Rev. J. Thomas is the pastor, was recently burned down, and his congregation now meet in a temporary room. The people are poor, and pay what they please for sittings, subscribing on the Weekly Offering plan, which has been found to work very well, notwithstanding that their pastor surrendered the income guaranteed to him by the trustees of the Countess of Huntingdon's Connexion. A Sunday-school, Tract and Dorcas Societies, and a coal club, are in operation. In the same road, and in Stepney parish, is Mile-end-road Chapel, of which the Rev. James Chew has been minister for the last twelve months. There is a heavy debt on the place, which must be cleared off by July next. From a printed statement before us we learn that the minister and friends who took this cause in hand a few years ago, "have removed half the debt, and, at a considerable cost, renovated the chapel and schoolrooms. The Sunday-schools have now 400 scholars, and the day-schools 250 pupils. The Ragged-school (recently founded) has an average attendance of 120 children. During the year the congregation has been trebled, and the church has received about ninety members, most of them from the world." In connection with this church a missionary supported by Mr. Morley's liberality is working with efficiency. The Wesleyans bought the Eastern Institution, Commercial-road, some time ago, and transformed it into a Seaman's Chapel, and it is well attended on Sunday evenings. The United Methodists have also two chapels in the district, and are doing a good work. A spacious Baptist chapel (the Tabernacle) has been lately erected on Stepney-green, through the labours of students from Mr. Spurgeon's college; but the pastorate is at present vacant. Two or three other small Baptist places of worship are also scattered over the hamlet.

We come now to Mile-end New Town—a district which by no means answers to its name, being for the most part older than the greater part of the "Old" Town. This hamlet is bounded on the north and east by Bethnal-green, and on the south by Whitechapel. Its population, which is for the most part in a very deplorable condition, socially and spiritually, was 15,392 in 1861. This is an increase of 5,209 since 1851, or more than fifty per cent. in ten years. A more striking proof of the increase of overcrowding could not be furnished in London. There is no leading thoroughfare through the district, and the streets are all mean and for the most part narrow; the houses dingy; the people almost one mass of pauperism. "There is scarcely a family within its boundaries, of a rank above that which would allow of the latch being lifted up, and a Christian visit paid. It is also the nearest of the three hamlets to

London, and to the very poorest part of London. The population is therefore more crowded, and the air is much the more vitiated. Any one acquainted with the locality will appreciate the difference, in this respect, between the central part of Brick-lane, in which Truman's brewery stands, and the parts around Mile-end Gate, the Commercial-road, or so far down the banks of the river as below Shadwell." The inhabitants mainly consist of dock labourers, earning their half-crown a-day, weavers, coopers, and artisans of every grade—a considerable proportion being Irish. Though there is still abundant room for improvement, as any one perambulating the district with a nose on his face will discover, its sanitary condition has immensely improved compared with a generation ago, and the Metropolitan Association for Improving the Dwellings of the Poor have model lodging-houses in its midst for some eight hundred people, and are, we are glad to observe, increasing their accommodation. Lord Shaftesbury's Lodging-house Act has worked very beneficially in this overpopulated neighbourhood, where there can hardly be said to be, for a week together, a room or lodging to let.

There is religious accommodation in Mile-end New Town for about one in five of the population, as follows :

All Saints Church	1,000
Roman Catholic Chapel	1,000
Independent Chapel	1,000
Ragged Church	300
		3,300

This proportion is much larger than obtains in many other eastern districts, though the people are sunk so low that it is difficult to produce any very palpable effect upon them by any kind of agency. The incumbent of All Saints' Church is the Rev. A. B. Suter, M.A., an active worker among the poor, and a clergyman of liberal views. He is the Bishop Nominate of Nelson, New Zealand. Near the centre of Mile-end New Town is an extensive Roman Catholic establishment, erected at a great cost and consisting of a nunnery, monastery, large schools, and a chapel crowded on Sundays. Adjoining it is the King Edward Ragged and Industrial Schools and Refuge, a most valuable institution, which educates above one thousand children and provides a home for thirty or forty friendless and destitute girls. Probably no one would be disposed to challenge the statement that the greatest benefactor to Mile-end New Town has been the Rev. William Tyler, pastor of the Independent Chapel in Church-street. He has laboured in this poverty-stricken district for thirty long years till he has become known and reverenced by the whole population; and is more entitled than any one else to be called its bishop. Greatly owing to his zeal and influence, and the active co-operation of Mr. H. R. Williams, the honorary secretary, the noble King Edward Ragged School was firmly established, and most of the British schools of the neighbourhood have been originated or actively assisted by him. In this philanthropic work several members of his family have contributed not only pecuniary help, but large personal service. The Gascoigne-place Mission, to which we have already referred, is an auxiliary of his own church; and mainly by his efforts was erected in 1856 the first Ragged Church in London, at a cost of some 1,700/-, where some of his own people preach on the Lord's-day, to a congregation of about two hundred people. The place is in use the whole week for some educational purpose or other, and it is planted in the midst of a most wretched population, whom it has done much to improve. Here are taught the boys belonging to King Edward Ragged-school. Immediately adjoining the Ragged Church is a paved court called Spring-gardens, formerly, if not at present, the haunt of a daring gang of thieves, in league with those by whom the Countess of Ellesmere's jewels were stolen and disposed of a few years ago.

We have not space to speak as we should wish of Mr. Tyler's own church. The old chapel, having become unsafe, was pulled down about three years ago, and a new one built, and opened for Divine worship in March, 1862. The cost, including 2,500/- for the purchase of the freehold of the site and school premises has been nearly 8,000/-. This valuable estate is now free from debt. Not many chapels of London surpass Mile-end New Town Chapel for the beauty and finish of its interior. Well-built and commodious schools adjoin it, in which over 300 children in the week day receive education. The latter contributed in school pence last year the sum of 160/. In the Sunday-schools connected with Mile-end New Town Chapel a thousand children assemble on the Lord's-day. A few Sundays since Mr. Tyler preached to 1,250 children in the chapel. There are in church-fellowship, &c., 450 members, about one third of whom

are engaged in some kind of Christian work—such as teaching, tract-distributing, visiting the sick, relieving the destitute, &c., in connection with the various agencies of the chapel. In one of the several savings' banks superintended by the school managers, there are over a thousand contributors, and about 140 poor women enjoy the advantages of the mothers' meetings carried on by ladies, members of the church. Such self-denying and long-continued service in the Christian ministry in a wretched district has been gratefully appreciated by his church and congregation, who, in presenting Mr. Tyler some three years ago with some mark of their attachment and respect, thus expressed themselves:—

"For twenty-five years he has laboured for this church in season and out of season, regarding no service or sacrifice too great to promote its spiritual interests. To him many of us owe under God our first religious impressions, and all have experienced the power of his ministry in strengthening their spiritual life, and in exciting them to Christian union and benevolence. By the simple exhibition of the Cross of Christ, accompanied by the blessing of God, his labours have likewise been eminently successful in the conversion of sinners. We also gratefully acknowledge his sympathy and assistance in the hour of need, and feel that we have in him a pastor ever ready to be the friend of his people. With pleasure, too, would we testify to his incessant activity in alleviating the sorrow of the widow and orphan, in promoting the education of the poor, in relieving the distressed and destitute, and in facilitating, both by service and substance, the progress and usefulness of those institutions which have for their object the moral and spiritual elevation of mankind."

This is honourable testimony, and well-deserved. There is not an evangelistic agency far and wide but has felt the benefit of Mr. Tyler's advocacy and pecuniary help; and probably we should not be wrong in the statement that the pastor of Mile-end New Town Chapel has expended far more than any income he has derived from his ministerial office upon philanthropic and religious agencies in the neighbourhood around.

* * * As the General Election is now beginning to absorb public attention, the completion of these papers will be suspended till after the excitement is over. Meanwhile we shall be much obliged to the ministers and officers of the Free Churches of London of any denomination who have not favoured us with communications, if they will forward to us their last Year-book, or any information, printed or written, which may be serviceable in enabling us to take a survey of the whole subject.

GOSPEL OAK CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL.

Last Wednesday afternoon, the ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of the Congregational chapel about to be erected in Gospel Oak-fields took place. The locality is between Haverstock-hill and Kentish-town, skirting Hampstead-heath, and is one of the new London suburbs which are stretching far and wide into the country. In other respects the enterprise has some special features, as will be seen from the proceedings at the public meeting which followed the laying of the stone.

The afternoon was very fine, and there was a large and respectable company, many of whom had come from considerable distances. At four o'clock the service commenced by the singing of a hymn, given out by the Rev. J. Nunn; the Rev. R. H. Smith, the minister for whom the chapel is intended, reading suitable passages of Scripture.

The stone was then laid by Mr. SAMUEL MORLEY, who said he had undertaken the duty of laying that stone as an expression of very hearty sympathy with Mr. Smith and the friends who were associated with him, and to express with all sincerity his very earnest desire and prayer that God's blessing might abundantly rest upon him and those who would be fellow-workers with him in that neighbourhood. He (Mr. Morley) believed they were entering upon the work to be done there with a far greater desire to make men Christians than to make them Dissenters. At the same time, he desired it to be remembered that they met there as Protestant Dissenters of the Congregational order; believing, as he did, that there was very much in the system of church government held by that particular body, which offered the best guarantee that he had ever been able to discover for the preservation of a pure faith and a pure ministry. He felt that they should have their recollection refreshed as to the views held by that body; and he would say that they accepted the definition of a church which was found in the 19th Article of the Church of England. They also accepted Archbishop Whately's definition of an Apostolic church—that each church or congregation regulated its own affairs subject to no external interference, but acknowledging the Great Head. (Hear, hear.) There were there that day to acknowledge and gladly to recognise as fellow-workers all who upon sound principles endeavoured to promote the spiritual good of the people. Seeing as they did the great need which existed for greatly increased accommodation to meet the wants of the enormous and increasing population of the metropolis, that work ought to be regarded without jealousy, but with deep interest, by all who professed to have the same object in view as themselves. (Hear, hear.) They were often called political Dissenters. Now, he was not there to say one word in objection to the deepest and the

strongest interest in politics. He believed that all the more for being a Christian he was bound to interest himself in whatever concerned the welfare of the people. He however, asserted that Dissent was a constant and a standing protest against the interference of politics with religion. (Hear, hear.) Religion had been injured, and never benefited, by the interference of the civil power. They might cover the land with the most costly buildings, and endow them out of the public funds, and yet have done nothing to promote that "righteousness which exalteth a nation."

The Rev. THOMAS BINNEY then offered an earnest prayer, the doxology was sung, and the service concluded.

We may add, that the chapel is to be built of Kentish rag, with Bathstone facings, and will accommodate 750 persons: 500 on the ground floor. The estimated outlay for the present is about 2,000*l.*, towards which sum 1,222*l.* 1*s.* 4*d.* has been subscribed, which leaves yet to be raised 901*l.* 7*s.* 2*d.* It is proposed to employ chairs, instead of fitting the chapel with pews, until the finances of the congregation will admit of the addition. The galleries also will be used for the present for the purposes of the Sunday-school.

A tea-meeting followed, in the schoolroom attached to Haverstock-hill Chapel, which was kindly lent for the purpose. After tea there was a public meeting in the chapel, Mr. Morley acting as Chairman.

After devotional exercises, in which the Rev. J. Nunn and Rev. T. Fison took part,

The Rev. R. H. SMITH presented a report, which he said was necessarily more personal in its character than was usual on such occasions. He said that this movement belonged to a series of efforts in which he had been continuously engaged from the commencement of his ministry. Twenty years ago he established a cemetery and built schools and a chapel at Brading, which he had since visited every year. He had also been the means of erecting a chapel at Surbiton, which was now too small, so that another was about to be built. With regard to that undertaking, it had been in the first instance contemplated by the Congregational churches in the neighbourhood. Long since they looked upon the district of Gospel Oak-fields. A meeting for conference was held, at which a paper on "Church Extension" was read, and the whole matter thoroughly discussed; but the difficulty of the work, and the pressure upon each church of its own more immediate claims, prevented any step being taken. Ultimately, through the agency of Mr. Binney, Mr. Morley was informed that he (the speaker) was about to leave Hanley, Staffordshire, owing to a death and further illness in his family, and that he had determined to repeat the effort in London he had formerly made at Surbiton. Mr. Morley then—at the end of December last—brought the present work before him, promising 500*l.*, and wishing him God-speed in it. Subsequently the Chapel-building Society offered 500*l.*, on the condition of another 500*l.* being raised besides the sum presented by Mr. Morley. Other subscriptions came in, and, after some difficulty, they obtained the present site for the erection of the chapel. Meanwhile, he had opened his own house for Divine worship, and the numbers attending had continued to increase. On the first Sunday in April a church was formed, and he had intimated his desire and ability to give his services during the erection of the building, so that the whole of the proceeds might be devoted to the fund. The caution given to each and all, as to the necessity of personal conviction before they committed themselves to church fellowship, and the spirit of the undertaking, had evidently begun to tell upon the members and their influence, it being shown by the amount of their gifts, and their attendance at the prayer-meetings. At the first monthly meeting four persons were proposed for membership, three of whom attributed their religious decision to the present effort. In conclusion, Mr. Smith said that, while accepting in all its integrity the law of bearing one's own burden, he acknowledged the ordinance of Christian fellowship, and he prayed God that He might grant the work grace and favour in their eyes, so that they might help it with their money and their prayers. (Applause.)

Mr. SANISTER, treasurer, read his report, and urged that the edifice should be fitted with pews before being opened.

The CHAIRMAN said he had listened with very deep interest to the statement of Mr. Smith, and stated that it was a pleasure to be associated with him in such a concern. On such occasions it was important to consider how they were to get at the population about them. It was the greatest puzzle of the most learned minds how to get at the great body of the common people—the immense population who were living outside of all religious effort: and not only the working class, but the occupants of small, genteel houses were, to a large extent, regardless of public worship. (Hear, hear.) He could not express more emphatically the need at present existing for church extension than by stating that if all that portion of the London population that ought to be found in either churches or chapels were willing to attend public worship, there would be requisite at least half a million more sittings. The fact was, that nearly double that number were habitually absent from public worship. Mr. Horace Mann believed that statement to be correct. There was need of some fresh kind of effort, Mr. Morley said, and he urged increased fidelity on the part of those who professed to be on the side of the Lord. He believed there was in the churches lying unused, not only a large amount of property, but a very large extent of personal service. He concluded by expressing his desire that the special

work commenced that day might prove to be, as he was fully convinced it would, a blessing to the district.

The Rev. S. MARTIN, in moving the first resolution, dwelt upon the occasion when, twenty years ago, he made the acquaintance of Mr. Smith at Brading, and the impressions which the sermon of that day made upon him. He then believed Mr. Smith to be a man of strong personal convictions, and was particularly struck with his evident communion and intercourse with God. He now had thorough confidence in their friend and brother, and expressed his hearty desire for the success of the undertaking. The great thing required now was not more preaching or more teaching, but what Taylor called holy living.

The Rev. E. WHITE, who seconded the resolution, said that 10,000 people had come to settle in Gospel Oak-fields. He spoke of the necessity for self-sacrificing men, and stated that when they got the people to believe thoroughly they would then spend thoroughly. When they got the interior spiritual structure they would not fail to have the external material building.

Mr. C. E. MUDIE proposed a resolution pledging the meeting to encourage, both by its sympathy and assistance, those who have undertaken this work, recognising the necessity of personal conviction and prudence in its prosecution, and expressing satisfaction that it was to be pursued in a spirit of economy and self-reliance.

Mr. EDWARD MIAULL seconded the resolution, tendering his hearty thanks to Mr. Smith for having invited his attendance there that evening. He said there was one thing which had struck him and impressed his mind deeply for many years; it was that their sole object as Christians ought to be the extension of Christian life, and there was nothing that could accomplish it but life in the instrumentality by which it was to be secured. They might build their churches in every street, and have all the outward appliances for preaching, but they could do nothing for God but as God was in them and came forth of them. To be engaged in church extension was, perhaps,—nay, was certainly, the highest privilege to which they could aspire. He had the utmost confidence that Mr. Smith would be successful; and he (Mr. Miall) prayed most fervently that he might be able to gather something from their friend's experiment in the way of example.

The Rev. A. MACKENNAL said that, as Mr. Smith's successor at Surbiton, he was able to speak strongly as to the genuineness and value of the work which he had done there. He (Mr. Mackenral) had no doubt that he would do a great work in that neighbourhood.

Mr. CARVELL WILLIAMS, of Surbiton, said that as one who had been companion with Mr. Smith in Christian work, he felt special pleasure in wishing him God-speed in that undertaking. His only fear was that Mr. Smith's strong spirit of self-reliance might lead some of the Christian people of the neighbourhood to think that he could do without their assistance. That, he thought, could be a misfortune; for it was desirable that, not only should the work be done, but that it should represent the united liberality and zeal of many who were banded together for high spiritual purposes.

THOMAS SPALDING, Esq., then proposed a vote of thanks for the kindness shown by the Haverstock-hill congregation, which was carried, and shortly afterwards the meeting, which was of a very interesting character, closed.

THE LONDON CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL BUILDING SOCIETY.—The Lord Mayor has very liberally and kindly undertaken to issue invitations to an evening meeting, at the Egyptian Hall, Mansion House, on Wednesday, June 21st, for conference on the objects of this society. It is stated that the present resources and prospective income of the society for the two next years are already appropriated to chapels in course of erection, and that in addition to these, no fewer than ten most deserving applications for the society's aid are before the committee.

VICTORIA-ROAD CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL, NEWPORT, MON.—The Rev. Frederick Poland, the much esteemed minister of this chapel, has been necessitated to resign the pastorate of his church and congregation, through ill-health. The arduous duties which have devolved upon him in the erection of this magnificent place of worship, in which he has successfully laboured for the past six years, have so impaired his physical constitution, as to render it imperative that he should seek a more retiring sphere of labour. His farewell sermons will be preached on Sunday next, June 11th, after which the pastorate will be vacant until another minister can be procured to undertake its duties.

PARK CHAPEL, CROUCH END, HORSEY.—The anniversary services in connexion with this place of worship were brought to a close last Wednesday. The special sermons were preached on the preceding Sunday by the Rev. Baldwin Brown, B.A., of Kensington, in the morning, and the Rev. Mark Wilks, of Holloway, in the evening. On Wednesday, the 31st, the Rev. Samuel Martin, of Westminster, preached in the morning, and the Rev. Newman Hall, LL.B., in the evening, to full congregations. Between the services the company partook of a cold collation in the adjoining commodious schoolroom, which was crowded on the occasion. The Rev. J. Corbin presided, and was supported by several neighbouring ministers. In the course of the proceedings, the chairman said that, as a congregation, they were happily free from debt, and that they intended to divide the entire proceeds of their anniversary collections between two neighbouring infant causes—that of the Seven Sisters' road, under the pastoral care of the Rev. E. T. Brom-

field, and that of the Junction-road, Upper Holloway. Dr. Ferguson and the Rev. J. Martin expressed their pleasure at this exhibition of Christian sympathy and co-operation, and Mr. Bromfield and Mr. Charles Misil, on behalf of those respectively represented, briefly thanked the Hornsey people for their generous consideration. After some further proceedings, most of the friends went to a neighbouring field, where a spacious marquee had been erected, in which tea was provided. The brilliancy of the weather greatly enhanced the pleasure of the occasion.

PARK CHAPEL, CAMDEN TOWN.—The new school buildings and lecture-room erected by the congregation of the Rev. J. C. Harrison, at a cost of more than 5,000*l.*, will be opened on the 14th inst. by a public breakfast and evening meeting, at which, as will be seen by advertisement, several distinguished ministers and laymen are expected to be present.

KENSINGTON.—The Rev. John Stoughton met the members of his church and congregation on Monday evening, May 31st, after his return from Palestine. The meeting was held in the lecture-room, which was tastefully decorated, and over the platform and pulpit the feeling of all was expressed by the words, "Welcome home!" After partaking of tea, a much larger number assembled in the chapel. The devotions of the assembly were led by the Rev. T. S. Russell, after which Mr. Watson, the senior deacon and president of the meeting, gave a report of the proceedings of the church during the fifteen weeks of absence; and, on behalf of the church and congregation, bade his pastor welcome home, and stated that all the expenses connected with the pulpit services had been defrayed by some of the members of the church, who were desirous that no deduction should be made from the gift of 400*l.* which was put into his hands before he left. The Rev. W. Roberts and the Rev. W. M. Statham made congratulatory addresses, and Mr. Stoughton acknowledged the affectionate salutations of these brethren and of his flock in his happiest manner, and renewed his dedication to his Master, to the church at Kensington, and to the denomination in which he is so honoured and esteemed. Mr. Stoughton was somewhat unwell on his return, but is now better.

THE REV. A. M. HENDERSON.—A deeply interesting service was held on Wednesday evening at Claremont Chapel, Pentonville, in connection with the departure of the Rev. A. M. Henderson to Melbourne, Australia. The chair was occupied by Jas. Spicer, Esq., treasurer of the Colonial Missionary Society, who, after prayer by the Rev. A. Hannay, of City-road Chapel, stated the circumstances under which Mr. Henderson is about to go forth to take the pastorate of the church at Richmond, and the presidency of the college at Melbourne. Mr. Hugh Owen then read the address to Mr. Henderson prepared by the testimonial committee, which was of the most cordial description, and stated that in response to the proposal to raise a fund for a suitable testimonial, 200*l.* had been received. A portion of this amount was expended in the purchase of a handsome clock, bearing an appropriate inscription, which he had peculiar pleasure in now presenting for Mr. Henderson's acceptance, together with a purse of 175*l.* The purse was handed to Mr. Henderson amidst loud and general cheering, and the clock, of elegant design and workmanship, was uncovered at the same time in view of the congregation. Mr. George Drew, representing the teachers of the four Sunday-schools in connection with the church, next presented nineteen or twenty massive volumes, consisting of the works of Origen, Chrysostom, and Auseum, and an album, purchased by the teachers at a cost of some 20*l.*, which had been most readily subscribed. All the teachers felt themselves to be under weighty obligations to their pastor for the constant and valuable help he had afforded them in their work. Mr. Balleny, in tender and touching words, on behalf of a few ladies, asked Mrs. Henderson's acceptance of a case of dessert knives and forks. Each of these gentlemen testified to the uninterrupted harmony which had prevailed between the pastor and his people during the whole nine years of their union, and to the grief at the thought of his departure. Mr. Joseph Soul, secretary of the Orphan Working School, presented a small and nicely-executed map of Australia, drawn expressly for Mr. Henderson by one of the boys of that institution, aged thirteen. Mr. Ogden, a deacon, was not, he said, commissioned to make any present to their late pastor, but he offered him "the wealth of the people's love," in a fervent and affecting speech, which moved many to tears. Mr. Henderson warmly acknowledged the generous gifts, and the still more generous words of his friends, which would be thought of and cherished by him so long as life should last. In Mrs. Henderson's name he especially thanked the unknown ladies who had kindly remembered her, who was his true helpmeet. In review of his relationship with them he had no feeling but that of pleasure and of gratitude to God. From his ministerial brethren too he had experienced the utmost kindness. He rejoiced to see so many of them present, while others had written to say how readily they would have been there had circumstances permitted. Another hymn having been sung, the rest of the evening was devoted to speeches by neighbouring ministers and special friends of Mr. Henderson. Among these were the Revs. D. M'Fie, T. Binney, J. Besley, of Blackheath; Professor Godwin, of New College; Dr. Edmond, of Highbury; F. Stephens, of Croydon; J. S. Wardlaw; and J. Fairfax, Esq., of Sydney.

CHESHAM, BUCKS.—The Rev. W. Payne, after a pastorate of nearly thirty-one years, has been compelled to resign from long-continued ill-health.

THE REV. W. HEWGILL, M.A., of Warley, Halifax, has accepted the unanimous call to the pastorate of the Congregational church, Market-street, and will enter upon his ministerial duties in connection with that place on the first Sunday in July.

BOWLING, BRADFORD.—Mr. J. K. Nuttall, senior student of Rotherham College, has accepted an invitation to become the minister of the Congregational chapel recently erected at Bowling, Bradford.

WEDNESBURY.—Mr. John Onley, of Springhill College, Birmingham, has accepted the unanimous invitation to the pastorate of the Independent church in this town, and will enter upon his ministry the first Sabbath in August.

THE HEALTH OF THE REV. DR. SPENCER, of the Poultry Chapel, has considerably improved since his return, though it is feared he will be unable to accept the invitation of his brethren to accept the chairmanship of the Congregational Union next year.

FROME, ZION CHAPEL.—Mr. Alfred Rowland, LL.B., of New College and the London University, has accepted a unanimous invitation to the pastorate, over the church assembling in this place, as successor to the Rev. D. Anthony, B.A., for thirteen years its beloved and esteemed minister. Mr. Rowland will enter upon his labours in August next.

WANSTEAD NEW CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.—On Monday evening, 29th May, an interesting meeting was held in the Court-room of the Weaver's Almshouses, Wanstead, for the purpose of forming an Independent church. Within the named parish no Nonconformist church of any denomination had previously existed. The provisional committee to whom the Worshipful Company of Weavers had kindly granted the use of the above room on every Sabbath-day had, with the concurrence of the congregation, and after having worshipped together for twelve months with increasing signs of God's favour, requested the Rev. B. Beddow, late of Newbury, to superintend the formation of a church, and on its having been formed, to become its pastor. In compliance with this request, the Rev. B. Beddow presided, assisted by several esteemed and beloved brethren. Prayer was offered by the Rev. E. Manning, of Bishopsgate-street Chapel. Mr. John Shrimpton read a brief historical statement of the origin and progress of the work. An address on the nature of an Independent church was given by the Rev. E. T. Egg, of Woodford. The Rev. B. Beddow then united twenty-five in church fellowship. On his having retired from the meeting, the Rev. S. McAll, president of Hackney College, took the chair, when the church cordially and unanimously elected the Rev. B. Beddow as their pastor. With generous and brotherly greeting the Rev. S. McAll, in the name of the church, gave a cordial welcome to its newly elected pastor, who reciprocated the warm expressions of feeling. All then, led by the Rev. S. McAll, joined in solemn and earnest petitions to the Great Head of the Universal Church. Some necessary business followed, and the service was closed by the pastor with praise and prayer. There will be shortly laid, on a site generously given by George H. Wilkinson, Esq., the foundation-stone of a building to cost about 2,500*l.*, and to seat ultimately about 700 persons.

SUNNINGDALE—NEW CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.—On Wednesday the memorial stone of a new Congregational church was laid at Sunningdale by Mr. J. Remington Mills, M.P. The locality was unusually gay with flags and banners, and a great number of visitors attended from the metropolis and the district around Sunningdale. The design for the building is in the Early Decorated Gothic style. The accommodation is for about 240 persons on the ground floor. The ceiling of the church will be below the roof line, and will be divided into panels. All the internal woodwork and fittings will be stained and varnished. The contract is being carried out by Mr. Oades, of Egham, at the sum of 1,016*l.* Mr. W. F. Poult, of Reading, is the architect. The total cost will probably be about 1,200*l.*, towards which 800*l.* has already been promised. The proceedings were commenced by the Rev. G. P. Jarvis, who invoked the Divine blessing. The Rev. R. Willan gave out the 285th Hymn of the New Congregational Hymn-book, and the Rev. W. Marshall, of London, read suitable portions of Scripture; after which Mr. Willan made a statement giving a brief sketch of the steps which had led to the interesting proceedings of this day. Mr. Mills, M.P., addressed the spectators in a very appropriate and effective speech, and then proceeded to lay the memorial stone, after which the Rev. J. Ellis, of Bracknell, offered the dedicatory prayer. An opportunity was now given for placing contributions upon the stone, and some thirteen guineas were soon laid upon it. Another hymn was sung, announced by the Rev. W. Marshall, and then the Rev. S. Eastman, of Windsor, delivered an address. A verse of the National Anthem was sung, and the proceedings were brought to a close by the Benediction, pronounced by Mr. Willan. A spacious tent having been erected in Mrs. Bedford's grounds, about 140 repaired thither, and partook of an excellent tea, which that lady had gratuitously and generously provided. After tea a collection was made, which swelled the proceeds of the day to more than 18*l.* The meeting on the lawn was addressed by the ministers present and by other gentlemen, and the company separated about eight o'clock.

WELLINGTON, SOMERSET.—On Tuesday, May 30, the commodious school and class-rooms built for the Sunday-school in connection with the Baptist church and congregation were publicly opened. In the afternoon a capital sermon was preached by the Rev. N. Haycroft, M.A., of Bristol. At five the large room and infant-class room were crowded by a numerous company assembled to tea. At half-past six a public meeting was held in the chapel. In the lamented absence, through illness, of Thos. Thompson, Esq., of Prior-park, Bath, Mr. W. D. Horsey took the chair. Mr. Haddon, the treasurer of the School-building Fund, read a statement of accounts, from which it appeared that the cost of land, builder's contract, gas fittings, and furniture, amounted to 1,159*l.* 17*s.* 5*d.* The subscriptions paid and promises made to morning of opening would be 636*l.* 5*s.* 7*d.*, leaving a balance of 523*l.* 11*s.* 1*d.* due on the building. An appeal was then made by the Rev. George Humphreys (the pastor) for additional subscriptions towards making up this sum. The appeal was promptly and liberally responded to, the chairman taking the lead by announcing that he would double his subscription. Very many friends followed, and at the close it was stated that the whole proceeds of the day, including collections, profit on tea-meeting, amount received by the ladies for useful and ornamental work sold, and promises, would reduce the debt to 280*l.* Very excellent speeches were delivered during the evening by the chairman, Revs. E. Edwards, of Chard, E. Webb, of Tiverton, H. Cowell, B.A., of Taunton, J. Price and S. Mann, of Exeter, J. Morris (Westeyan), and W. Rawlinson, Esq., of Taunton.

Correspondence.

THE GENERAL ELECTION.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist*.

SIR,—In the *Liberator* of the present month are these words:—

"Church-rates or no Church-rates? Let every candidate be tested by this question, and elected or rejected accordingly."

The reason assigned for this advice is, the recently avowed policy of Mr. Disraeli.

I do hope Christians will feel that far higher and holier considerations are to guide them at the approaching election. Once more suffer me to lift up a voice—though it may be a solitary one—against shaping our course by the variations of party politics. Had we in past time given more heed to the New Testament, and far less to the dictates of statesmen, than we have done, in my opinion our movement would have been far more useful than it has been. Till the profoundly religious object of Nonconformity is put in the foreground, we shall never secure the respect of our opponents, or the enthusiasm of our friends.

I am Sir, yours,

W. ROBINSON.

HOW TO DIFFUSE OUR PRINCIPLES.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist*.

DEAR SIR,—It strikes me that the advocates of religious freedom have a most powerful means put into their hands at the present juncture. This consists in the using their right of reply to the various circulars which they, as electors, receive from the candidates, asking the aid of them as electors. Say one hundred electors reply to the Conservative candidates who cannot "support the unconditional abolition of Church-rates," who want other people to pay to keep up the "venerable fabrics"; let these electors tell their views on this "pious mail" which these Conservatives exact from others, and the effect would be highly beneficial. It might not induce these ecclesiastical rough-riders to get out of the saddle, but it would make the riding rather more difficult.

Many of these ecclesiastical riders enter the covert with those only of their own class, they never bear any "tally-ho" but that of their own; let them hear ours, and that, be it observed, without any unjust intrusion on their privacy, because they ask us to applaud their cry, and we claim to utter our own.

Believe me, sincerely yours,

JOHN EPPS.

June 5, 1865.

P.S.—A copy of the subjoined letter was sent to Mr. Brodrick and Mr. Peck, who are candidates for the Eastern Division of Surrey.

Sir,—As you have presented your views as a candidate for East Surrey, to me as an elector of East Surrey, I beg to record my views as an elector of East Surrey.

My conviction is that of the illustrious and sagacious John Locke, that "Religion is a matter between God and each individual."

Following from this is the belief, that each individual human being is bound to support his own creed, hence it is to me a gross violation of right, that you, a member of the Episcopal sect—a sect that takes nearly six millions a-year out of the productive industry of the people of this country for the teaching of the doctrines and for the carrying out of the ceremonies of your sect—should call upon others to pay for keeping the seats of your place of worship clean—a place of worship which you have rent free.

No candidate will have my vote whose intellect is so stolid as not to see that such a procedure is an act of gross injustice. And let me ask you, in sober reality, what excuse you will give to your Judge, when He asks you, when appearing (as you speedily must) before His judgment-seat, how you carried out His glorious law of love to your neighbour, when you forced that neighbour to pay, contrary to his conscience or to his belief, for the support of the worship that you deemed right to offer to your Judge.

If you are a Papist I can understand in part your procedure; but, as a Protestant, holding the right of private judgment in matters of religion, your conduct in enforcing Church-rates is grossly inconsistent, and insulting to your fellow-man.

Yours, truly,

JOHN EPPS.

THE COMING STRUGGLE.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist*.

SIR,—The coming election will probably advance the cause of truth and good government, even should it

place a Conservative Ministry in office. The Tories generally come out of an election more liberally inclined than they were when they went into it, and while office invariably makes Liberals more conservative, it generally makes Conservatives more liberal. Still it would be most unwise and even damaging to our cause to let the Tories in, if we can possibly keep them out; because, with their sure majority in the House of Lords, they would stamp their own narrow and wrinkled image on legislation, and because their Executive, both at home and abroad, is inconceivably worse than that of the Liberal party. Italy, America, France, and England, have great reason to rejoice that the Tories were not in power during the last five years. The Reform party, then, should go into the coming struggle with a fixed determination to secure a good majority, especially as the acknowledged official obstacle to reform cannot continue very long. How is this majority to be secured? National interest in the election seems to deepen and widen every week, and the prospects of the Liberal party, so far as voters are concerned, improve every day. True, it is extremely painful and discouraging to find Halifax taking the lead in the downward course on the memorable question of Church-rates. Increasing wealth, titles, Royal visits, have, I much fear, told a tale on the minds of the once forward leaders of the Reform party in the good old town. Has the rank and file undergone no change? Where now is that stern political virtue which neither the commanding figure nor the local influence of a great military genius could pervert? Is there nothing worth fighting for, but the *Church Institute*?

It is equally discouraging to know that the numerous votes possessed by Nonconformist electors in Essex, one or two other counties, and in both provinces of the Principality, will either not be given at all, or given to Tories of the most narrow and bigoted type. The deplorable shortcomings of Essex, Halifax, and Wales, will not, however, destroy our chances of success, though they will cover these constituencies with disgrace. Danger is to be apprehended in other quarters. In some places we have more candidates than we want. The press of Liberal candidates around almost every open door, resembles a crowd of people struggling to get into an omnibus on a wet day. Wait awhile, gentlemen, and you'll all go either by this bus or some other; but they will not wait. Self-assertion is the order of the day with these patriots; party, country, principle, all absorbed in self. "In my opinion, and in the opinion of my committee, I am the best man you can have to represent you in Parliament; therefore I will go to the poll and poll the last man, even though my doing so should end in sending to Parliament the man who in my opinion, and the opinion of my committee, is the worst man you can possibly have. I will not submit my claims to the arbitration of any man, or any set of men, beyond the precincts of my committee, who are unanimously of my opinion."

Here, Sir, is one source of danger; and, if something be not done to abate this nuisance, and to send a host of would-be senators back to private life, to induce them to work where they can do no harm and may do some good, the Tories will assuredly have a majority in the next Parliament large enough to enable them to pass any sort of a Church-rate Bill. What a pity it is that the good cause should be injured and lamed by its friends putting themselves in the wrong places. True patriots will retire from any contest rather than endanger the success of the Liberal cause. There are other sources of danger, which your space will not allow me to notice in this letter.

Yours truly,
T. M. N.

INDEPENDENT CHAPEL, OULTON.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist*.

DEAR SIR,—Will you be kind enough to permit me to call attention to the advertisement in reference to the above chapel? It was built mainly by the descendants and friends of the Cromwell and Fleetwood families, its first fellowship having been formed at their residence in the neighbourhood then called Armingland Hall. Nearly 150 years has it stood, a bulwark of civil and religious liberty, and we feel sure it will not be deserted in its venerable age. It was built with great solidity, but "Father Time" has touched with his ruthless fingers, flooring, doors, and windows (the latter being literally dust in some parts of the framework). These must be renewed both for the safety of the building and the comfort of the people; some of the aged and delicate of whom dare not attend in the winter time, and while it continues in its present condition. Our expenses of late for new roof, new trust-deeds, repairs of minister's house, present repairs of the branch chapel, have been heavy. We would not appeal to the Christian public if we did not feel that the *necessity* laid upon us is beyond our strength. The estimate for the needed repairs is 90*l*.

Samuel Morley, Esq., has kindly headed the subscription list, and we trust that his generous example will be followed by many to whom the cause of Protestant Nonconformity is dear.

Subscriptions thankfully received by the minister, or per Messrs. Gurney's, Aylsham. A secondhand coal stove would be very thankfully received.

I am, dear Sir, yours truly,
W. FOX.

Oulton, Norfolk, June 5, 1865.

CONSCIENCE VERSUS CONVENIENCE.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist*.

SIR.—The recommendations of the commission appointed to consider the terms of subscription for the clergy of the Church by law established, appear to bring before us again the case of the Evangelical clergy who profess to be dissatisfied with the ritual of their Church. The alterations made by the commissioners will prove, we think, of no avail to them. If they are still to declare that they assent to all and that they will make use of all the book contains in the services of the Church, we cannot see what relief this is to afford to any conscientious mind. Their case remains essentially the same. If this is all that the combined wisdom of the highest dignitaries in their Church can do for them, alas! where are they?

Much has been said, both on one side and on the other, as to the duty of the Evangelical clergy remaining in, or seceding from, their Church.

On the one hand, it is said, they may be more useful

where they are; that they may have greater influence in obtaining a reform in the Church while they remain connected with it; that they may prevent the spread of Puseyism and Popery in the land, or in the Church to which they belong; that to come out would be a very serious and painful change to them. Suppose these things are allowed, then on the other side it may be said, if to obtain these advantages they subscribe what they do not believe; if they use language in sacred services, and under the most solemn circumstances, which they cannot approve, and which they use in a non-natural sense; and if they find it a hard task—a task so hard they know not how to perform it—to make the language they are obliged to use agree with what they believe to be taught in the inspired Word, then, it seems simply to come to a question between conscience and convenience, or duty and interest. Am I to violate conscience because it is more convenient for me to remain in my present position? Am I to use language contrary to the plain dictates of sacred writ, because I imagine some good may arise out of it? What! do evil that good may come? Can it be wise to use services of a Papistical tendency, with the hope that abiding here I may check the inroads of Popery? Am I right in continuing to use language evidently delusive to the souls of men, with the hope that I may be more useful to them? Surely, reasoning more sophistical than this cannot be conceived.

Am I to thank God for regenerating every child I baptize, while I believe there is no essential connection between the baptismal rite and the regeneration of the heart? Am I to take the young to the Confirmation Service to have the forgiveness of sins pronounced over them, and the Holy Ghost conferred upon them, when I have no faith in such blessings being connected with such a rite? Am I to speak of my authority to absolve the penitent from all his sins, when I know that that belongs to my great Lord alone? Am I to thank God for taking a dear brother or sister out of the miseries of this sinful life in the case of every interment, when I know that some of them have died without Christ, and without hope? If there comes upon the mind any conviction that such things are wrong, to remain, and to continue the use of such services is to us inexplicable.

In reference to the objects for which some profess to keep in the Church that they may seek its reformation, and may be more useful they appear to us to be of the most doubtful nature. The efforts they may make to obtain reformation appear of a hopeless character. The powers against them are so great. For the major part is on the other side. Allowing that theirs may be the cause of truth, yet the God of truth may not choose to bless their efforts while in their present positions, any more than He did the Puritans in former times, or the secessionists from the Church of Scotland in our day. Neither the one class nor the other could obtain what they wanted while in the Church; they were compelled to come out. Can the Evangelical clergy prove any effectual barrier to the progress of Popery in the land, while they help to uphold the system by which it is encouraged? If they were to bear their decided testimony against the systems of sacerdotalism and sacramental efficacy prevailing in the Church by their secessions, and this were to unite with all the other evangelical ministers in the land, their power for good we believe would be much greater. It is to us a matter of great regret that any ministers of standing and influence amongst ourselves, should recommend the Evangelical Clergy to remain where they are. This advice is given by some Nonconformists of rather high positions. We might instance Dr. Gordon, as one amongst others, in a pamphlet on "Puseyism, What is it" &c., in which he deprecates the thought of their secession, and observes, "Were they to quit the national Church, we should have, I apprehend, a speedy union with that of Rome." If this advice is sound, how are we to justify the two thousand confessors of 1662? Why should we extol their conduct, and look upon many of them as noble martyrs for the truth? How are we to maintain our own Nonconformity, if those who hold the same essential principles with ourselves are to be advised still to conform? Are we the right parties to tell the clergy who begin to see the evil of these things, and to feel the galling yoke they have to bear, "O, it is your duty to remain where you are." Might they not reply, "Why do you not then come in and join us? If it is right for us to say and do the things, can it be wrong for you? Think what we might do together if we were all in the Church"? Here we fail to see the consistency of such advice with the positions we hold. This is necessary it is said to preserve the Protestantism of the Church. If so, we say, then let it go; and let all the adherents of the great principles of Protestantism come forth and be free, and form one united body in the land, and we shall have no fear for the result. The struggle may be trying, but the victory will be sure. Far better to fight the battle with the weapons of heavenly truth, than to mix with those the carnal weapons furnished by the powers of this world, to maintain and extend that kingdom which is not of this world.

I am, Mr. Editor, yours truly,
THOMAS COLEMAN.
Ashley, May 29, 1865.

DRINKING-FOUNTAINS.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist*.

SIR.—At the commencement of another summer will you kindly grant me space in your columns to plead the cause of the Metropolitan Free Drinking Fountains Association? In the month of May last year the claims of the society were strongly advocated by the public press of all shades of opinion, and the result was that a sufficient amount was contributed to enable the committee to erect several new fountains, to keep them all well supplied with water and in an efficient state of repair, and to take under their care several private structures which, for want of the necessary supervision, had become dilapidated and dry; but the funds thus placed at their disposal have been all exhausted, and the operations of the society are of such magnitude and extended over so large an area as to necessitate an expenditure far above the small sum guaranteed by annual subscriptions. The committee are, therefore, again compelled to solicit help from the wealthy and benevolent, to enable them to sustain their operations, and to respond in some measure to the appeals which they are continually receiving for more of these public free supplies of water for man and beast in the crowded and dusty thoroughfares of the metropolis. Ninety

drinking-fountains, five cattle-troughs, and a number of dog-troughs have now been erected by the society, and several more are in the course of erection. It is estimated that 300,000 people drink daily at the fountains already erected during the hot summer months: and when it is considered that nearly every man, woman, and child thus drinking is only satisfying a craving of nature which, unrelieved, entails the most acute suffering which it is possible for human beings to endure, we may fairly conclude that but for the fountains a large proportion of this vast multitude would be daily left either to experience all the miseries of thirst, or would be driven to seek relief at the public-house or gin-palace, which without drinking-fountains possess an almost undisputed monopoly, and are the only available resources for thirsty people in the streets of London. The evils arising to the itinerant poor from these forced visits to the beer-shop, and the sickness and suffering which are constantly experienced by the resident poor in some of the densely populated parishes of the metropolis, in consequence of their entire dependence on an intermittent supply of water, and the limited means which they have at their disposal for storing a sufficient quantity for daily use, have caused medical men of the highest eminence to bear witness to the value of the Metropolitan Free Drinking Fountains Association, whether regarded from a benevolent or a sanitary point of view.

I shall be happy to receive contributions in aid of the society, or subscriptions may be paid at the office, 1, Shorter's-court, Throgmorton-street, E.C.

I have the honour to be, Sir, yours faithfully,
SAMUEL GURNEY, Chairman.
25, Prince's-gate, W., June 3, 1865.

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER AT CHESTER.

On Wednesday evening a meeting of Liberals was held at Chester for the purpose of hearing Mr. W. H. Gladstone, who has offered himself as a candidate in the Liberal interest for election. The Chancellor of the Exchequer was present, and spoke in support of his son. The right hon. gentleman, who was received with great enthusiasm, said that although he had not the honour to be either a candidate for election, or an elector, he hoped it would not appear strange or unnatural that he should come among the electors on this occasion, when the immediate question concerned one in whom he was so nearly and dearly interested, one of whom he never had, and he believed never should have, cause to be ashamed. ("Hear, hear," and applause.) There were three candidates in the field for a single seat. One of them, Mr. Raikes, had all the claims to represent the city which could be possessed by a man holding opinions held only by a very small minority of the constituency. (Cheers.) Mr. Raikes had only a ghost of a chance of being returned; he had apparently come forward because the majority of the constituency were divided. It was a grave matter to consider who was responsible for the division. Before his son had consented to stand, a requisition, signed by upwards of 800, out of a constituency of 1,900, had been presented to him. Mr. Fenton, although requested to do so, had declined to produce any proof of a superior, or even equal, manifestation of strength. (Cheers.) The responsibility, therefore, of dividing the party rested upon Mr. Fenton. Mr. Gladstone went on to refer to the free-trade and financial policy of the Government, and warned the electors against those who bade them beware of the party who carried the repeal of the Corn-laws, established the system of Free Trade, endeavoured to mitigate and remedy religious disabilities, and taught the doctrine of a liberal extension of the franchise. The party to which Mr. Raikes belonged had offered every obstacle to the establishment of the French Treaty, and had brought all the skill and ingenuity of a Parliamentary opposition to bear in order to effect their purpose. In reference to the franchise, the right hon. gentleman said the working classes were a very small portion of the constituency of the country, and he regretted that the mind of the country was not more prepared for a sensible extension of the franchise to working men. So far as his experience of the constituency of Newark was concerned, he had come to the conclusion that working men would not go as a class together, or set up a separate interest if they had the franchise; he lamented the abolition of the scot-and-lot constituencies, and in conclusion expressed himself in favour of a liberal though safe extension of the franchise.

Although scot-and-lot constituencies have been extinguished, I say those scot-and-lot constituencies had their advantages. It was a good sound English franchise, which, if there were any questions in which the working men had a particular interest, gave them an opportunity for making their wants and wishes known; and that I think, was not a bad thing. Now we are in this predicament. I believe at this moment a smaller proportion of the working men enjoy the franchise than enjoyed it thirty years ago, at the time of the Reform Bill. But what changes have taken place? If the number of electors in the working class has diminished, what has happened to the working class itself? Has it diminished, or has it increased? Had it deteriorated, or has it improved? Is the education of the working class worse than it was? No; it is infinitely extended. Is the loyalty of the working class more doubtful? No; it glows more fervently than ever. Is there a feeling towards the Government of greater hostility? No, as I have the best means of knowing, so far from distrusting the Government, the Government is the very agent which they like to make the guardian of their savings. Has the character of the working class been especially tested in the interval since the Reform Bill? I say it was tried in the fire of affliction—in the fire of affliction which burnt in Lancashire, when in a day the employment of the people was swept away; and yet public order was secured, the laws were adhered to, and respect was paid to every man of the more fortunate class. They endured in silence and patience, with

heroic fortitude, and I must confess that such proofs of confidence as these ought to have some influence on the spirit of the privileged class, and induce them, not as a matter of concession or abstract right, but upon practical grounds, with a view to strengthening the laws and institutions of the country, to make some sensible, some liberal, though some safe extension of the franchise. It would be futile to enter into what should be the form of that extension. I say it would be most wise to include in the extension all those who, not being holders of property, are equal in position and intelligence to the possessors of the franchise, but are still excluded from it. That is a measure, gentlemen, which has received aid from a very distinguished gentleman—from Mr. Disraeli. He calls it lateral extension—extension sideways. That is a very good thing, but it is not enough. There ought, also, to be throughout the country at large an extension downwards, the effect of which should be that in the borough constituencies in general the working class should exist as a sensible fraction or portion of those constituencies, and that their views should be more fairly and truly heard in the House of Parliament, in order that their interests and their feelings might be yet more warmly enlisted in the interest and the welfare of our common country. (Tremendous applause.)

The *Chester Chronicle* says:—"Mr. W. H. Gladstone's canvass during the week has proceeded with the most remarkable success, and, if ever his election appeared problematic, the doubt is now completely swept away."

BRITISH AND FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of this society was held at the London Tavern on Monday evening, May 29th, Mr. S. Gurney, M.P., in the chair. The report entered into details respecting the results which had been effected by the society, and the efforts they were still making to carry out their important mission. It went on to say that slavery in the United States was virtually abolished, and there was reason to hope that in Brazil and Cuba the day of freedom for the slave is not far distant. A partial resumption of the traffic was reported from the Portuguese provinces on the coast of South Africa, whence it had been apparently extinguished. This circumstance was attributed to the inadequacy of the means for its suppression at the command of the governor, who was said to be most determined in his opposition to slave-trading, but whose efforts were constantly baffled. On the west and east coasts of Africa the traffic was still carried on, notwithstanding the exertions that were made to prevent it; and the committee deeply deplored to record a large increase of slavery into Turkey and Egypt. On a review of slave-trade statistics for the past two years, the committee considered that, although the prospect of the final extinction of the traffic was encouraging, it appeared to be also remote. The progress of events in America was then dwelt upon at length, and the report concluded with a survey of the work yet before the society, especially in Cuba, where there are one million slaves, and in Brazil, where they number three millions. On the motion of M. GRANVILLE, Chargé d'Affaires for Hayti, seconded by M. GERARD RALSTON, Consul-General for Liberia, the report was adopted, and the committee appointed. Resolutions relating to America, and recognising the claim of the new freedmen on British sympathy and help, were spoken to by Mr. E. N. Buxton, Mr. S. Bowley, Mr. Conway (formerly a Virginian slaveholder, who, from conscientious motives, set his slaves at liberty), the Rev. Dr. Storrs, and the Hon. C. C. Leigh. The Rev. ELIAS SCHRENK (Gold Coast) and the Rev. Dr. WADDINGTON spoke to a resolution deploring the state of things in Cuba and Turkey, and expressing satisfaction at the formation of a Spanish Abolition Society in Madrid, and the efforts which are being made in Brazil to bring the question of emancipation under the notice of the Legislature. All the resolutions were agreed to.

WALES AND THE GENERAL ELECTION.

We have great pleasure in inserting the following address from the South Wales committee of the Liberation Society to their brother electors:—

TO THE NONCONFORMIST AND LIBERAL ELECTORS OF SOUTH WALES.

In two or three months the present Parliament will be dissolved, and an appeal will be made to the electors of the United Kingdom to constitute a new House of Commons. A call will thus be made upon the Nonconformists of South Wales to assert their principles and perform their duty in this important crisis.

It's a fact which greatly puzzles the Nonconformists of England that the Dissenters of Wales are so inadequately represented in the Parliament of the United Kingdom. Englishmen understand that three-fourths of the population of Wales are by birth, education, and profession, Nonconformists, and that the other fourth comprises only a small fraction of those who are strongly attached to the National Church, the majority of them caring neither for Church nor Dissent, alike indifferent to Liberal or Conservative politics. This being the case, it becomes a matter of wonder that Nonconformity is wholly unrepresented in the House of Commons, with the exceptions of the county and boroughs of Glamorgan, and the borough of Carmarthen. It is true there are nominally Liberal members for other boroughs and counties, but it is only in name. They are not earnest Liberals, that really care for the triumph of their principles, for whenever any measures affecting our interests are before the House, they are seldom or never at their posts to vote for such measures.

How are we to account for such an anomalous state of things?

To say that Welshmen are utterly careless of political principles and Parliamentary influence would be untrue. No doubt they have cared more for their religious institutions than for political power; but this may in part

be accounted for by two peculiar facts in their circumstances. One is that they have had no particular organisation to furnish them with the right kind of candidates. They have had no men offered them for whose principles they cared, and hitherto they have had no means whereby they could seek and procure for themselves candidates who would merit their confidence, and really represent them in Parliament. They have had no alternative, therefore, but to accept the men offered to them by their landlord and commercial rulers.

But another and perhaps stranger reason for this state of things is the want of a large middle-class in Wales to assist the tenant in his struggles against the overruling power of the landlord. The great proportion of the constituency are tenant-farmers, holding from year to year small farms, and they have been at the absolute mercy of their landlords. The commercial towns are rapidly growing with another class of electors, and these, for the most part, are represented by men who hold liberal principles, and vote for liberal measures.

What, then, is to be done? And what can be done in prospect of the approaching election? *Organization of the constituencies, with a view to the combination of the oppressed against the oppressor.* Let a few intelligent, high-principled Nonconformists in each county take up the register and see that every qualified elector is put upon the roll in borough and county. Let them seek to promote such a combination of tenants as the landlords will be unable to dissolve or overrule, and the great work which ought to be done in Wales will be done.

In addition to these means, the South Wales Committee of the Liberation Society met at Aberdare, in March last, and unanimously recommended to their fellow electors to adopt the following policy at the forthcoming general election:—That in all cases where the strength of the constituency warrant them in taking a decided stand, they should demand from Parliamentary candidates, as the condition of their support, a pledge to vote for the following measures:—

1. The total and unconditional abolition of Church-rates.
2. The opening of the universities in all their rights and privileges to all denominations of her Majesty's subjects.
3. The extension of the suffrage, at least as far as Mr. Baines's Bill proposes to extend it in the boroughs, and Mr. Locke King's in the counties.
4. Such an extension of the liberties of Nonconformists as shall place them above all disadvantage on account of their religious opinions.

These are simply just and righteous claims, and any candidate who refuses to pledge himself to vote for them is unfit to represent a nation of Dissenters. We can afford, and have a right to demand, that there should be no evasiveness or compromise of these claims. We are in a position to dictate our own terms; and we must not allow vague or plausible professions to defraud us of the power we possess, and the position we ought to occupy. These measures are the outline of our political Gospel: they are the charter of our most sacred convictions. Our forefathers suffered for them; endured most cruel and memorable wrongs in defending them; and it is time the ancient spirit be roused again "to do and dare" for principles which have cost us precious blood and holy lives. We believe that Welsh blood has not degenerated; that amongst the ancient mountains and in the lovely vales of our country the spirit of John Penry and Roger Williams still burns with unabated ardour in modern bosoms; that there are many spirits kindred to theirs still ready to serve as high priests at the sacred altar of liberty. But the spirit slumbers in our bosoms waiting to be roused, even as the lightning slumbers in the bosom of the cloud. Let us then realise the responsibility which the coming election entails upon us, and by combined action and a courageous policy, vindicate the cause which Divine Providence has entrusted to our fidelity.

Court, Official, and Personal News.

ACCOUCHEMENT OF THE PRINCESS OF WALES.

We rejoice to state that shortly after one o'clock on Saturday morning the Princess of Wales was safely delivered of a son—the second child now born to the Heir Apparent and herself. The latest bulletin published last evening contains a gratifying report of the health of her Royal Highness and the infant.

The news of the happy event was received throughout London with every demonstration of pleasure. Salutes were fired, and the bells of the churches rang merry peals during the day.

A great number of the nobility and gentry called at Marlborough House in the course of Saturday and Sunday to inquire after the health of her Royal Highness and the infant Prince.

The accouchement of her Royal Highness was not expected to have taken place before the commencement of July. The Princess was present at Mr. Hallé's concert, at St. James's Hall, on Friday afternoon, and had returned to Marlborough House in her usual health, with the intention of joining the dinner-party at eight o'clock. A slight feeling of indisposition, however, deterred her Royal Highness from entering the dining-room, and as the evening drew on indications presented themselves which speedily brought the medical attendants to her assistance, when, after a brief suffering, bravely borne, the Princess became the happy mother of a second Prince in the line of British kings.

On Monday the Prince of Wales went to Woking, and inaugurated the Royal Dramatic College, the foundation-stone of which was laid by the Prince Consort.

The inauguration of the Welsh Memorial to the late Prince Consort will take place at Tenby about the 15th of July. By command of the Queen, Prince Arthur will represent her Majesty on the occasion. Great preparations are being made at Tenby for the event.

Lord Brougham arrived at his residence in

Grafton-street on Friday evening from Paris. He is in good health.

The Canadian Ministers and delegates, Messrs. Galt, Cartier and M'Ghee, and the Rev. Mr. Brown, were entertained at a splendid banquet at the Star and Garter, Richmond, on Tuesday night, given by Sir Morton and Lady Peto.

It is announced that her Majesty's Government have resolved to withdraw from the war-vessels under the Confederate flag "the limited hospitality which was their due as long as they were commissioned by a belligerent Power." This measure has been for some time in contemplation, and will now be adopted forthwith.

Postscript.

LATEST FOREIGN NEWS.

Wednesday, June 7, 1865.

The Emperor of the French, when at Constantine, invited five Arab chiefs to dine with him, and took, it is announced, the opportunity to tell them that he desired to see Arabs in general become fitted by labour and education to enter into any positions now filled in Algeria by French subjects. He also stated that he desired every individual in the army to be free to rise, if his services, intelligence, and opportunities allowed him, to fill the highest grades. The Emperor is represented as in perfect health, and all the better for the great fatigue he daily has to undergo.

In the debate on the Budget in the French Corps Législatif yesterday, M. Thiers replied to the arguments used by M. O'Quin, the reporter upon the Budget. Taking up the same line of argument as on Friday last, he maintained in his speech that the budget of expenditure had reached 2,900 million francs, while the receipts were only 1,900 millions. He considered it was necessary to meet the deficit by a loan. M. Thiers finally described the financial condition of the country as deplorable. M. Vuitry replied successively to each of the arguments brought forward by M. Thiers, and showed the financial state of France to be satisfactory.

A despatch from Pesth of yesterday's date, says:—"The Emperor of Austria arrived here to-day, and met with an enthusiastic reception. The Cardinal Primate, at the head of the Hungarian nobility, delivered an address to his Majesty, who expressed his thanks for the confidence therein manifested towards him. Of this the Emperor said he should be able to judge from the composition of the Diet. His Majesty stated, in conclusion, that in order to realize a mutual wish on his part and that of the country he would submit to the ceremony of coronation as King of Hungary."

THE PRINCESS OF WALES AND HER SON.—The following bulletin was issued yesterday:—

Marlborough House, June 6 (9.30 a.m.) Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales has passed an excellent night, and is going on as well as possible. The infant Prince continues well.

ARTHUR FARRE, M.D.

EDWD. H. SIEVEKING, M.D.

BELLIGERENT RIGHTS.—Earl Russell's order in reference to the non-recognition of the belligerent rights of Confederate cruisers is published in last night's *Gazette*. His lordship orders that armed ships bearing the Confederate flag shall be sent out of all British ports, but at first they shall have the usual twenty-four hours' grace allowed them. Afterwards no such allowance is to be made.

THE BIRTHDAY OF GEORGE III.—The birthday of George III. was commemorated yesterday by the scholars at Eton. The little collegiate town was crowded with fashionable visitors, and the success of the festivities was greatly enhanced by the brightness of the weather. After the young Etonians made their speeches, their relatives were entertained at dinner by the Provost, and in the evening there was a regatta and a grand display of fireworks.

MARK-LANE—THIS DAY.

Fresh up to our market to-day the arrivals of English wheat were very moderate, but the condition of the produce was good. Owing to the favourable accounts at hand respecting the growing crops, millers showed no disposition to operate freely. However, a fair clearance was effected, and all good and fine samples changed hands at Monday's currency. With foreign wheat the market was but moderately supplied. The amount of business transacted was limited. Nevertheless, previous quotations were steadily maintained. Floating cargoes of wheat were in but moderate request, at late rates. Barley, of which there was but a moderate supply, sold slowly, and in some instances prices were rather easier. Maize was in slow request, at about previous rates. The market was moderately supplied with oats, the trade for which was steady, and good and fine samples supported previous quotations.

ROYAL GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION.—The season of the Opera di Camera has been brought to a successful close with the performance of "The Soldier's Legacy," and the last effective and melodious novelty, "A Fair Exchange." A new opera, however, taken from the French, and adapted by Mr. German Reed, will inaugurate a fresh campaign in about a fortnight or three weeks. Although the new entertainment by Mr. Brough, called "A Peculiar Family," fills the gallery to an overflow, Mr. Parry is, we hear, about to give us a new descriptive song. The representations therefore of "Mrs. Roseleaf by the Seaside" are limited, and only extend over a few more nights,

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CHURCH-RATES and the EXEMPTION of DISSENTERS: a Dialogue between a Parliamentary Candidate and a Nonconformist Elector. (Reprinted from the "Christian Spectator" for June.)

Arthur Miall, 18, Bouvierie-street, Fleet-street, E.C.

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Published by ARTHUR MIALL (to whom it is requested that all Post-office Orders may be made payable), 18, Bouvierie-street, Fleet-street, E.C.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"C. R." Dorking.—His letter reached us too late to be used.

The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7, 1865.

SUMMARY.

ON Saturday morning the Princess of Wales gave birth to a second son at Marlborough House, and we are happy to state that both her Royal Highness and the infant Prince are doing well. Another link has thus been added to the line of succession to the British Crown; another element of happiness to the domestic life of Queen Victoria and her popular son; and another bond of union created between the Royal Family and a loyal people.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer has thrown himself zealously, if somewhat too eagerly, into electioneering strife. His own son is a candidate for Chester, and is opposed by a Tory, which is natural enough, and by a Liberal also, whose special claims to represent that city are not very obvious. The great orator, therefore, has good reason for expending his eloquence upon the electors of Chester. Mr. Gladstone bore good-humouredly the rude interruptions of his boisterous hearers whilst, in an unusual partisan spirit, he advocated the claims of Lord Palmerston's Government to public support, and the desirability of young men of suitable position and abilities being early trained to political life as a distinct profession. The question of the suffrage was treated somewhat vaguely in this electioneering manifesto. After Sir G. Grey's announcement in Parliament, Mr. Gladstone could not well explain his views, beyond insisting upon the necessity of widening the basis of representation, and expressing regret at the abolition of scot and lot voting.

European news is not of very exciting interest. The Emperor Napoleon is prolonging his stay in Algeria, and the Italian people have been celebrating the anniversary of the granting of constitutional rights to Piedmont, which laid the foundation of national unity and freedom. The relations between Austria and Hungary have so far improved that the Emperor has visited Pesth, where he was well received, and promised to go through the ceremony of coronation as King of Hungary. At Berlin, Herr von Bismarck continues to lecture and offer explanations to the Chamber of Deputies, who, nevertheless, persist in rejecting every financial proposal submitted to them.

The British Government has promptly responded to President Johnson's proclamation announcing the cessation of war in the Southern States, and raising the blockade of all the ports east of Texas, by an official notification that, the civil war in America being at an end, belligerent rights are withdrawn from all vessels of war carrying the Confederate flag. Nevertheless, the same papers which contain this despatch, report

a continuance of hostilities in Texas, and further bloodshed in a conflict between Federal and Confederate troops. General Kirby Smith, whose power of resistance to the Union has been ridiculously exaggerated by some of our newspapers which seem incapable of forming a true estimate of American affairs, has not yet surrendered, but was ready to negotiate for that object. His inclination to yield would, no doubt, be strengthened by the presence of General Sheridan, who has been sent South to reduce the only remaining rebellious State to submission.

The threatened resistance of this nondescript Confederate force in Texas is probably acting adversely for the interests of Mr. Jefferson Davis and the other Southern leaders who are now immured in Northern prisons. President Johnson's frequent denunciations of treason are now shewn to have had a meaning. The ex-President and Mr. Breckinridge are to be arraigned before a court-martial, and a true bill has been found against them for having been parties to the raid into the District of Columbia last July. The form of the indictment, which has been probably adopted to insure a conviction, is almost a guarantee that the lives of the prisoners will not be sacrificed. Indeed, the circumstances of Mr. Davis's capture in Georgia have created so much amusement in the North that public opinion no longer regards him as a victim to be sternly sacrificed to the demands of justice or vengeance.

The question which now agitates the people of the United States—so rapid has been the revolution in opinion—is no longer the abolition of slavery in the South, that is regarded as settled; but the policy of conferring upon the emancipated slaves the full privileges of citizenship! A strong party, with Chief Justice Chase at its head, has adopted negro-suffrage as its distinctive programme, on the ground that such a concession is best adapted to protect the coloured race from the tyranny and coercion of their former masters. President Johnson leaves the loyal people of each Southern State to decide the question for themselves. There seems to be a good chance that the negro of America will be invested with the suffrage before the British workman; and possibly the democracy of the New World, instead of being a warning to other civilised nations, will furnish a constitutional example which the Old World will be compelled for very shame to follow,

LIGHT IN THE HORIZON.

OUR readers may readily imagine that we have watched with wistful and anxious glances the first indications of what are likely to be moral characteristics of the proximate General Election. Twelve months ago, and even less, we looked forward to a languid struggle involving no ultimate issue of great public moment. Party distinctions had dwindled down to such a close approach to identity, and party leaders had become so nearly alike on all points save the possession of office, that we reluctantly adopted a prospective conclusion unfavourable in most respects to immediate political progress. We never had the slightest misgiving as to the ultimate tendency of public opinion. We felt confident that if temporarily checked in its onward career, it would be but to accumulate force sufficient to overbear, at a somewhat later period, the impediments thrown across its path. But we imagined that, unless exceptional events should occur to rouse the public mind, the probability was that the desire of maintaining things as they are would outweigh the desire of securing things as they should be, and that Conservative leanings would for the time being effectually countervail Liberal tendencies.

We are beginning to take a somewhat brighter view of the future. We believe Liberalism has touched its lowest point. Our interpretations of numerous auguries which have recently come under notice, unexpectedly point our expectation in one direction only—and that a cheering one. We have studied the addresses of candidates for the coming election. We cannot deny that many of them—perhaps the majority—are of the routine complexion. We are not in the slightest degree discouraged by the fact. The rank and file of Parliamentary expectants will, of course, speak the language of the rank and file. And yet, we think, no man who will be at the trouble of carefully collating the addresses and electioneering speeches of 1865 with those which preceded the last General Election, will fail to detect in the mass of them evidence of a very marked advance of political sentiment. There is less arrogance, less dogmatism, less of the spirit of "*sic volo, sic jubeo*," in the utterances of the Conservatives than there used to be, and, among Liberals, there is far less of a sublime confidence in pompous generalities. We do not mean to say that the opinions advanced differ

greatly from those which found utterance six years ago—but certainly, they are more courteous, more moderately, and more apologetically expressed. In a word, the tone is better, even where the topics are the same—for the men now seeking trust from the electoral body feel themselves compelled to acknowledge, by implication at least, that reason is the standard by which their political principles must in the end be judged.

But, as we have already intimated, we draw our inferences far less from the printed and oral demonstrations of the general run of candidates than from the higher, more significant, and, as it strikes us, more reliable because less vague and delusive, style of the more prominent politicians of both parties in addressing their constituents. There is in many of them an individuality, if not originality, of phrasing, which inclines us to believe that they are really beginning to study old questions from a new point of view. It appears to us that they are gradually changing the bases on which their opinions have rested, and that, although, in the majority of cases the self-same opinions are still retained, there is an evident desire to harmonise them with somewhat more reasonable rules of judgment. The alteration is taking place just where we would have it to take place, at the root of political thought and feeling, and gives us hope that if progress should be slower than we could wish, it will be sounder, and, after a time, more general.

We are not at all sure that the absence of a Ministerial programme will, in the event, depress the energies of Reformers to anything like the extent that was commonly anticipated. The march of events has largely modified our own opinion in this respect. There is still quite enough of avowed confidence in Lord Palmerston, but it is no longer, as once it was, relied upon as an all-sufficient recommendation. The question of Parliamentary Reform, supposed by superficial observers to have received its *coup de grace* from the present House of Commons, crops up everywhere, and in almost every variety of form. Very few candidates make their appeal to constituencies—none who profess Liberalism—without endorsing more or less distinctly the principle of an extended suffrage. Some would apply it laterally, some vertically—but the men who would adopt the conclusions of Mr. Lowe are in a very small minority. How is this? How does it happen that, albeit the constituencies are said to take no interest in the question, and that neither electors nor non-electors care a fig about it, it should nevertheless be made the *pièce de résistance* of the vast majority of election addresses? Have candidates detected an amount of latent feeling in favour of widening the basis of the constitution, which they suspect it would be unwise to ignore, lest what is latent should be suddenly excited into activity, and, when concentrated, shatter much that it is desirable to preserve? Is the middle class beginning to apprehend that mischief may eventually come of their utter exclusion of the working class from political rights? Whatever be the cause, certain it is that so far as may be judged from what is occurring around us, the contemptuous treatment of the Reform question by the expiring House of Commons is not believed to have the sanction of the existing constituencies.

There is another feature of the present electoral preparations which is of a promising character. The contest of parties bids fair to turn wholly on domestic politics. We have no foreign question to divert the public sympathies. When we add to this a statement of the fact that ecclesiastical subjects are coming into the foreground, and that, too, under circumstances which augur for them a much more dispassionate consideration than they have hitherto received, we think our readers will concur with us in the conclusion that the issue of the coming General Election may well awaken a deeper interest than ordinary. It will probably mark a turning point in the political life of the empire. It will determine the general tone and spirit in which broad and difficult problems shall be in future discussed. This is even more to be wished for than the most decisive party triumph. We cherish the expectation that the next Parliament will reflect far more fully the liberality of sentiment which pervades the constituent bodies than the one which is about to close, and we cannot help remarking of the latter that it is catching in its last days some of those hues which will probably predominate in the complexion of its immediate successor.

THE PLAGUE OF DOGS.

OUR readers, we trust, having due regard to the heat of the weather, and to its development of rabies in the canine race, will forgive us for having made choice of a somewhat singular topic,

and for treating it in a biting manner. We are not going to fall foul of dogs *qua* dogs. We have no antipathy to the species. We have a partiality for them in their proper place. We have been to a dog-show, and felt interested in the exhibition. But we decidedly object to being overrun with brutes whose breeding and discipline appear to have been sadly neglected. They are not numerous, it is true, in the broad and much frequented thoroughfares of London, but, if police reports may be trusted, they run riot in bye-streets, lanes, and courts, and do not by any means confine themselves to the business of picking their living out of the gutters. Few days pass without some poor child or other being worried by some ill-tempered cur, with more or less probability of more serious consequences. We have seen savage-looking animals, in a state of semi-starvation, and evidently distressed by a thirst which they had no means of slaking, wandering about in a very irritable state of temper, and apparently meditating an assault at the first convenient opportunity. We confess we habitually give them as wide a berth as possible, in accordance with the old adage, "Once bit, twice shy." Nor is this the only nuisance to which not a few of the lieges of her Majesty are exposed in this metropolis and its suburbs, and we suppose elsewhere, by the over multiplication of these companionable brutes. Under our office window, which the broiling weather compels us to keep open, some poor denizen of the courtyard upon which it abuts, owns a mongrel which, being duly secured during the absence of his master, maintains throughout the livelong day such an incessant utterance of discordant yelps as we could hardly have imagined to lie within the compass of physical possibility. Our ears and our nerves, however, can testify that it takes an indefinite time for a dog to bark or howl himself out of voice.

But putting aside the nuisance which we endure as best we may, by day and by night, at home and abroad, from dogs who resent confinement, our present concern is with dogs unduly at large. We want no sweeping law on the subject, such as that which seems to have become necessary for the sister isle. There the canine tribe amuse their leisure by worrying sheep—here they more commonly take to worrying children, frightening women, and calling for the vigilance of men when they would fain employ their faculties to better purpose. It really is no laughing matter. It goes a long way beyond a joke. One case of hydrophobia excites consternation over a very wide neighbourhood, and what with the terrible suffering and death of the victim, and the horror of all who are made acquainted with the catastrophe, there is ample ground enough to look at the evil as one calling seriously for some effort at abatement.

The law would afford the public adequate protection if it were properly enforced. It is a matter which should fall under the cognisance of the police. In crowded districts, and during certain seasons of the year, dogs ought not to be suffered to roam the streets unmuzzled. No doubt, they would protest vigorously, if they could, against the discomfort of such a restriction, but, on the whole, the human being is worthy of some consideration as well as the canine. Unowned dogs may be individually as deserving as dogs who have got a master, but unowned dogs have no business in places swarming with children. It would be no tyranny to thin their numbers considerably, for, unquestionably, many of them lead a very sorry life of it, and get a very scanty and precarious living. We have no wish to compel poor people who fancy dogs, to forego such gratifications as they can find in the companionship of these animals—but even poor people should be considerate in their indulgences, and not make them the instruments of intolerable annoyance to their fellow-creatures. Besides, a muzzle is not an expensive article, and where it cannot be afforded, the proof is tolerably patent that the brute's means of living, otherwise than by pilfering, cannot be very abundant.

In our humble judgment, the police would be far more usefully employed in enforcing strict regulations in regard to dogs at large, than in expending so large a proportion of their watchful severity upon poor orange-women, hucksters, placard-men, and fusee urchins. If the latter sometimes need looking after, which we do not deny, the former need it ten times more. Perhaps, however, we have said enough upon the subject, and, very likely, what we have said will be set down to cynicism. But should the nuisance continue, we hope some member of Parliament will ask the Home Secretary why he does not insist upon the enforcement of police regulations in this matter, and whether it is his good pleasure that the hundreds of thousands who daily traverse the streets of this metropolis are to find no protection from the plague of dogs.

NOTES OF THE SESSION.

ON Friday both Houses adjourned for the Whitsun recess—the last break in the Session prior to the dissolution. If Parliament is to close its sittings early in July, a great deal of the business now before it will have to be abandoned; the Commons having three or four nights more of Supply before the Appropriation Bill can be brought in. There is also a threat in the Lords of an attempt, under the guidance of the Duke of Rutland, to obstruct, with a view to throw over, the Union Chargeability Bill by a proposal to refer it to a Select Committee. This kind of opposition will, we should hardly imagine, be offered to a measure which has been passed by such large majorities in the Lower House. At all events the Government have only to act with firmness to defeat this insidious policy.

The Civil Service Estimates, which now comprise a very long and increasing number of items, were under consideration on Thursday evening. The House of Commons, or rather the handful of members present, listened impatiently to discussions raised on the votes for secret service, stationery expenditure, and the Ceylon lighthouse, and at length allowed one item after the other to pass till no less than seventy-four votes had been taken. The grant for Education in England, which usually provokes a long debate, was allowed to pass, after a brief protest from Mr. Selwyn against the Conscience Clause and the restrictions on the grants to the National Society—a subject which is now under the consideration of a Committee of the Commons. As compared with last year, the Education vote shows an increase of about 12,000*l.*, and there are some 40,000 more children under instruction. But the pressure which the friends of the National Society are continually bringing to bear upon the Committee of Council is evidently beginning to tell, and it is to be feared that the report of the forthcoming Select Committee will encourage them in the attempt to recover the ground lost by Mr. Lowe's resolute opposition to sectarian demands. There was the usual stand made by a few economists against the Science and Art vote, but they were decidedly beaten. In reference to the statistics so zealously paraded of the attendance of the working classes at South Kensington, one member compared it to those theatrical representations in which twenty or thirty men are made to pass in and out so as to give the appearance of a considerable body.

On Friday the Irish Education vote was considered. When this question was discussed last year, there seemed to be some expectation of a breakdown of the present system, in consequence of the opposition of the Catholic hierarchy, or of a greater approximation to the denominational system. It is probably owing to the latter cause that Sir Robert Peel was able to announce on Friday that the number of schools had been increased by one hundred in the twelvemonth, and that 81½ per cent of the total number of pupils are Roman Catholics. This is greatly due to the increased grants to convent schools, who have accepted regulations which the Church Education Society decline to admit; and partly also, to the facilities now given to the Catholic clergy to supply teachers upon whom they can rely. In connection with the education votes the question of the claims of London University was considered. Mr. Cowper, while admitting them, urged that the University should at present be satisfied with increased room, and wait awhile for a distinct and separate building.

The Lords, on Thursday, passed the Clerical Subscription Bill, with a few unimportant amendments, and the Earl of Shaftesbury availed himself of the opportunity of eulogising the measure as likely to operate beneficially to the interests of the Church of England. His lordship is grateful for very small mercies. The Bill has yet to be considered by the Commons, as has also the Companies Workmen's Education Bill, which we hope, unless amended in a spirit of ecclesiastical justice, will be summarily rejected by that assembly. Sir Charles Wood has wisely withdrawn his obnoxious measure for endowing a bishopric at Lahore at the expense of the people of India. The Government have got into a small difficulty with Convocation. That ecclesiastical body have petitioned the Crown to be allowed to alter the canons relative to clerical subscription, in accordance with the Bill now before Parliament. Sir George Grey stated, on Thursday night, that the Government were not unwilling to grant the necessary licence, though they did not consider "that the concurrence of Convocation was necessary to the proposed change in the law." This is snub the first. But the address of this pretentious conclave is couched in such a form that the Home Secretary was unable to say, "without further consideration, how far her Majesty can be advised to comply with the prayer of the address." This is snub the second. We are glad to observe this needless

vigilance as to the action of an assembly destitute of legal power, and in no proper sense representing the Church of England.

DIGGING CHANNELS.

A PATH through a field may lead in the same direction as a mighty trunk line of railway; and we have been set upon our present train of thought, in part by a very small circumstance indeed, and in part by a fact which, as respects number and space, at all events, is considerable enough. One of our very earliest amusements, in the Saturday half-holidays and long summer evenings, was attempting to dam up and turn the course of a certain little brook as it crossed a miniature peninsula of gravel, on its way into the broader current of a river. A contemporary and very dear companion of those days, visiting the place just a month ago, found exactly the same process going on, and after thirty years and more, two little boys hard at work with sand and sods, changing the rivulet's bed, and the rivulet, as soon as they were gone, quietly enjoying its own way again. We chanced, after listening to his narrative, to turn to a letter from a correspondent of the *Times*, giving some account of the progress of the scheme of M. Leeseps for connecting the waters of the Mediterranean with those of the Red Sea. The Isthmus of Suez is a good deal bigger than our old friend, the tongue of land which juts out from Pelaw Wood, but we fancied our ancient experience in engineering in miniature, enabled us to sympathise a little more fully with M. Leeseps and his shareholders in their difficulties. One lament uttered on his behalf, it certainly never had occurred to us to raise on our own, namely, that the works of this great canal were in great danger of being suspended for want of forced labour,—a small matter of some thirty-five thousand of Egyptian labourers or fellahs, being all that was necessary to work under compulsion!

Perhaps the proper moral to be drawn from the large fact and the little one combined, was that "great Nature is wiser far than we," or at least what difficulties must be encountered if we take liberties with any of her arrangements, whether on a small or a great scale. This does not happen, however, to be the idea which arose in our minds, and which just at this moment has possession of our fancy. What did occur to us, was a convenient figure of speech for an immense department of human labour. Not in play only, but for work, we began to see that half the world is employed in digging channels. One now passage through which ships may sail from sea to sea, is of relatively small moment, when we think of the countless avenues required in this world, in order that nations may exchange commodities, and minds reciprocate thoughts. If Mr. John Stuart Mill were not of a turn of mind so severely realistic, he might have classed under the denomination of channel-digging, some of the most interesting chapters of his great work on Political Economy. The province of distribution, he shows, ranks, in the wealth of nations, only second to that of production, and the manifold divisions and subdivisions of those channels of merchandise which it is the great function of commerce to multiply and keep open, give occasion to some of his most thoughtful and *magical* expositions. If the name and office of Talent, or in other words, of intellectual powers not much over average ability, is to be vindicated as in its way meriting honour and gratitude, even as compared with the loftier claims of Genius, this likewise may be very fairly attempted on the ground that Talent digs channels through which the thoughts of original and creative minds are set in wide and general circulation. Some of the greatest of intellectual benefactors, are accessible universally only in this indirect manner. The first work of Mr. Arthur Helps derived not a little of its value from the aptitude and appreciative skill with which he popularised some of the weighty sayings of Lord Bacon, and even very easy and pleasant reading like the former essayist's *Friends in Council*, appears to need from some minds such further attenuation as it receives or suggests in the more diluted style of the writer known as "A. K. H. B." Not merely the aesthetic teaching of professed philosophers, English and German, but doctrines as eloquently enforced as those of Mr. John Ruskin always are by their author, filter their way to thousands of readers who will never open his books, through the art criticisms of the weekly and the daily press.

And there are forms and kinds of channel-digging even more important than those which are either exclusively commercial, or purely or principally

intellectual. How wretched and how dull would human life be, were it not penetrated on every side, in society and in the family, by channels of intelligent conversation, and channels of sympathy and affection! And these are due chiefly it may be affirmed, not to that half of the human family who take credit to themselves, often very unfairly, for doing all the hard work of the world. It is the wife, and the sister, and the mother, we are of opinion, who determine the moral and mental characteristics of a household, at least as much as the husband or the brother. Those who at all understand the extent of their own power in this direction, know its value too well to exchange it for any more showy, but also very empty equivalent. No vocation, they feel, is, or could be higher, than to keep sweet, and wholesome, and replenished with mental vitality, the very air which the mind and soul live in and breathe. They would gladly do this more effectually, but on no consideration part with the power they have. And it might conceivably be parted with. One consequence which might confidently be expected if the advocates of what are sometimes called the Rights of Woman had their way, would be that the vast and beneficent influence which women do exert, would deteriorate and contract. If all the arts of life, and every species of political or public activity, were divided equally between the sexes, there would be a great many clever barristers and members of Parliament of the feminine gender, but there would also be a terrible subtraction from the benefits and pleasures of well-balanced social intercourse, and of every happy, cultivated home.

To listen well, is as potent an element in good company as to talk well. Men who do not in the least crave to be flattered or courted, nevertheless often find some of their best thoughts left lying as it were only half-formed at the bottom of their minds, simply for the want of the quickening and attractive touch of other minds, sympathising and receptive enough to have called their own powers fully into play. Of course, there neither is nor can be, any really good conversation, where either the whole of the talk is on the one side, or the whole of the listening. There are no tongues more intolerably forward and wearisome than some of our own sex; on the other hand, even silence does not always express interest and attention.

The one fact to which we desire more particularly to give prominence is, that while the field of material on which men draw is larger and more diversified, it is women who, three times out of four, determine whether consciously or not, both the selection of topics, and the temper and point of view according to which these shall be handled. From a circle where all things are pure, everything polluting or coarse will insensibly be repelled, while whatsoever things are honest, and lovely, and of good report, gravitate thither, as to a natural centre and home. A sincere appetite for knowledge, will keep up a continual traffic in ideas and facts; and a vivid and trained perception of beauty, will draw to itself, by the very welcome it assures them, a thousand incidents of nature and impressions of art. There are characters and intellects here and there to be met with so strong in their individuality as to create for themselves wherever they go, the conditions necessary to their own full and powerful action on others, but these are both exceptional and few. In very many minds, fine and generous capabilities exist in a shape half developed and half latent, and so likewise do far lower sensibilities and far baser appetites. How much depends on the degree in which either or both of these sets of powers, is stimulated and cherished, from without as well as from within!

As a stream, whether it be large or small, flows with a thick and muddy tide or a "glassy, cool, translucent wave" according to the quality of the soils in which its channel is scooped, rather than in consequence of any property inherent in its waters, so perhaps we may image to ourselves a very large proportion of the currents of human conversation. The same spring as its flows and gathers strength, may undergo one destiny as it passes through limestone and granite; and a very different fate as it passes between banks of loose marl or yielding clay. So it is not always because people are very frivolous or very spiteful that their talk has a certain flavour which smacks of the silly and the uncharitable; and it is not always because the means of education were costly, or the natural endowments great, that the prevailing tone of another family is that of good sense and good feeling. The human mind is capable of taking in a very great quantity of rubbish, much on the same principle on which weeds grow up in a neglected garden, or on which cobwebs and dust accumulate no one knows why or how, in a room left

unvisited and empty. Or, to keep to our original figure, there is no guarantee against wrong and foolish habits, except habits of an opposite kind, and it is habits, and the influences which form and regulate these, which represent the mental or moral strata through which in any house the channels of thought and feeling shall run.

It is not by a single operation, or by any number of single efforts, that these channels are dug, but their shape and their depth may be the last and best result of a mother's character, or a wife's affection. While the younger ones are still too young to be aware which temper and which strain of dialogue is being cultivated,—which checked or left to die away, the spirit of the whole little community is being all the time purified and raised, "finely touched" to what will one day be "fine issues." The husband also, who comes home with his mind in a confused whirl of thoughts, some harassing, and some of a happier kind, finds the discontents and the anxieties somehow subside, and receives gratefully the contagion of his wife's cheerfulness, and patience, and love. Father and sons alike, as they mix with the crowd, and hear far more than they wish or feel able to remember, find their memory gradually training itself to collect and reproduce principally, some kinds of intelligence and some results of observation rather than others—namely, those which experience proves are most welcome and congenial, round the hearth or the table at home.

Happy they, who by their own bent of mind, and their own sweetness of nature take the foremost part (often without knowing it) in digging channels like these! We respect learning, we revere genius, but there is, we believe, no human power on the whole so mighty or so admirable as that which requires no genius, and can well afford to dispense with learning—we mean that of a meek and quiet spirit, and a loving, bright intelligence; the silent unpretending ministries which ennoble multitudes of pure and peaceful English homes; in a word, the power which has been well expreseed, poetically, and at the same time quite truly, as that of "The Angel in the House."

Foreign and Colonial.

AMERICA.

There have been several arrivals from New York during the week. The intelligence comes down to May 27th.

President Johnson had issued a proclamation declaring that all ports in the United States, excepting Galveston, La Salle, Brazos de Santiago, Point Isabel, and Brownsville, in Texas, shall be open to foreign commerce from the 1st of July next; the intercourse with such ports to be subject only to the laws of the United States. He also proclaims that the Federal Government henceforth denies to all persons attempting to traffic with any portion of the United States in violation of the laws thereof, on pretence of belligerent rights or privileges, and notifies that all such offenders will be seized and treated as pirates.

Mr. Jefferson Davis had been removed from the steamer in Hampton Roads to Fortress Monroe, where quarters, strongly protected with masonry and iron gratings, had been prepared for him in the second tier of casemates. His family remain on board of the steamer, and, together with Mrs. C. C. Clay, will be re-conveyed to Georgia, Mr. Stanton having refused to allow them to reside in the North. Mr. Clay was also taken to Fortress Monroe. The *Herald* says that Davis was confined in a casemate comprising two rooms. A guard was with him constantly, but he was not manacled, nor were his movements within the casemate restricted. Vice-President Stephens is confined in Fort Warren, Boston. Governor Letcher, of Virginia, James A. Seddon, and Judge Campbell, had been arrested. It was asserted that General Lee would also be arrested and indicted for treason. The capture of the Confederate Governor Harris, of Tennessee, together with 600,000 dols. in specie, and a large amount in bonds and other property belonging to the State, is announced.

General Sheridan had been appointed to the command of all the Federal forces west of the Mississippi. It was stated from Washington that he had been ordered to demand the immediate surrender of General Kirby Smith and his forces, and, if the demand were not complied with, to lay waste all territory wherein he met with opposition. An enthusiastic mass meeting was held by the Confederates at Shreveport, Louisiana, on the 29th inst., at which speeches were made by Governor Allen, of that State, General Hobins, and others, declaring that the cause of the South was by no means hopeless, and exhorting the people in the Trans-Mississippi Department to resolutely continue the struggle for independence. Kirby Smith was said to have received reinforcements from the east side of the Mississippi. Hood and his staff had escaped across that river. Other advices from New Orleans state that Kirby Smith was disposed to surrender to Colonel Sprague, but Generals Parsons and Shelby demanded an amnesty for themselves, de-

claring that if not amnestied they would join Maximilian. Colonel Sprague had returned to Washington, to confer with the Government.

The Confederate fleet lately at Mobile, together with its officers and crews, was formally surrendered to the Federal commander of the West Gulf blockading squadron at Manne Hubba Bluff, Onumbegen (?) River, on the 9th of May.

The grand review of the Federal armies at Washington took place on the 23rd and 24th. Upwards of 150,000 troops were under arms. Dense masses of spectators lined the course of march, and the greatest enthusiasm prevailed. With a few exceptions among the Sappers, no negro troops appeared. General Sherman was much cheered, and on the evening of the 24th was serenaded in Washington. In response to a demand for a speech, he said, now that the war was over, and the rebellion effectually crushed, he hoped that his brothers in arms would instantly resume peaceful avocations, and labour earnestly to restore the Union to its previous prosperous and happy condition.

The Confederate ram Stonewall, at Savannah, surrendered to the Captain-General of Cuba, to be held by him in trust for the Federal Government. On the 11th inst. 25,000 dols. were advanced by the Captain-General to pay off the crew.

The Confederate garrisons at Tallahassee and St. Mark's, Florida, surrendered to the Federals on the 9th.

The conspiracy trials were proceeding at Washington. Two important witnesses had been examined. Their testimony has been withheld. Witnesses in open court have testified that Jacob Thompson had heavy money transactions with the Ontario Bank at Montreal. The cipher messages intercepted between Canada and Richmond make no allusion to the assassination of Mr. Lincoln. The cipher found by Secretary Davis was found in Secretary Benjamin's office. A letter addressed to Davis, signed "Alston," has been produced in court. The writer offers to rid the South of some of her deadliest enemies. The letter is endorsed:—"Referred by direction of the President to the Secretary of War to Harrison, Nov. 1864, for attention, by order. J. A. Campbell, A. S. W." Two hundred witnesses will appear for the defence. Mr. Reverdy Johnson is said to be preparing an argument denying the jurisdiction of the Court. On the 26th, witnesses testified favourably to Mrs. Surratt's piety and loyalty. A witness for the prosecution swore that he had heard Cleary tell Sanders at Montreal that Lincoln would not trouble them long, Booth was boasting of the job. Sanders had published affidavits of persons resident at Montreal, asserting that the witness Daveney, who swore that he saw Sanders and Booth conversing together, was a swindler and a worthless character. Jacob Thompson had written a letter to the *Tribune* denying his complicity in the plot to burn Northern cities and assassinate Mr. Lincoln.

The Grand Jury of the District of Columbia had found true bills of indictment against Jefferson Davis and Breckinridge for treason. They were indicted separately, the overt act being the raid in July last, within the District of Columbia, Breckinridge having been present in person, and Davis constructively. The district attorney had asked for a warrant to arrest Breckinridge, and to summon Davis before the court-martial for trial.

Chief Justice Chase, in a speech made at Charleston, has stated that a new State Constitution must be formed and submitted to Congress. In addressing a meeting of the coloured population, he advocated negro suffrage, but could not say if the Government would grant it immediately.

President Johnson is said to have declared that he will leave the question of negro suffrage to the decision of the loyal people of the States which are interested.

The Connecticut Legislature had, by a vote of two-thirds of its members, extended the right of suffrage to negroes in that State.

Five tons of archives of the Confederate Government had been captured in North Carolina.

100,000 bales of cotton and a large amount of specie have been captured at Augusta. The Confederate Government cotton surrendered to General Canby amounts to 16,000 bales.

Mr. Frederick Seward had had a relapse. A severe and unexpected hemorrhage had occurred, and his condition excited uneasiness.

Doctor Blackburn, accused in the Policy Court of Toronto, on the 23rd inst., of attempting to introduce yellow fever into New York, had been held to bail in 8,000 dols. to meet the charge at the assizes.

The *Herald* has proposed a scheme to liquidate the national debt by the voluntary subscription of 300,000 persons at 10,000 dols. each. Upwards of a million has been subscribed in two days in furtherance of this proposition.

Gold was 36 per cent. premium on the 27th.

CONDITION OF THE SOUTHERN STATES.

The *Daily News* publishes a letter from New York on this subject:—"With the fall of the Confederacy," the writer says, "the people are remitted to the contemplation of a lot as desolate as can well be imagined. They are threatened with starvation, even in States where but lately Sherman's army found abundance of supplies. In various parts of the State the people, hard pressed with hunger, have risen in armed mobs consisting of discharged soldiers, citizens, women, children, and negroes. In Augusta the militia have been called out by a proclamation issued by the Mayor. At Macon, General Wilson, who has come into possession of all the provisions of the State and Federal armies in his district by sur-

render, has issued an order under which the bacon and breadstuffs accumulated for Confederate soldiers are made available for the benefit of the poor." According to this authority, "a great social change has already commenced. Two counter currents are at work to alter the complexion of society at the South. Hundreds of Southerners are every day leaving the slave States, where, owing to the ruin that has overtaken them, they can no longer live in the old style, or in any style, and are either losing themselves in the populous North, or else making their way to the marvellous gold and silver mining districts in the West; while Northern men are going to the South, carrying thither capital, purpose, energy, and every element of economical prosperity. There are vast fortunes to be made in the South by men possessed of means and organising ability, and in a year or two society there will have advanced far in a great and permanent revolution."

FRANCE.

The return of the Emperor, which was to have taken place on the 4th inst., is now delayed till the 12th or 14th. This postponement is caused by the interest which his Majesty takes in the objects of his journey, and also by his excursion to Constantine.

In the debate on the Budget in the Corps Législatif on Saturday, M. Thiers criticised the financial system of the Government, under which the Budgets exceeded two thousand millions of francs. He did not wish to put a stop to public works, but desired that they should be diminished, and that those only should be carried out which were indispensable. Mexico, he said, should be evacuated, or otherwise France would advance, if not towards bankruptcy, at least towards ruinous taxation, such as the income-tax which was proposed in the previous sitting. M. Latour Dumoulin regretted that M. Thiers had pronounced the word bankruptcy. He showed that the financial system under Louis Philippe was the subject of severer attacks than the present financial policy of the Empire. He was not of opinion that Mexico should be evacuated, but he required that the Corps Législatif should exercise a serious and efficacious control over the expenditure. M. O'Quin, the reporter of the Committee, replied to M. Thiers on Monday.

A commercial treaty is being negotiated between France and Spain.

La France says that the mission of M. Eloïn was to acquaint the King of the Belgians with the sad affair of Tacambaro, and to give precise information to the Emperor Napoleon, King Leopold, and the Emperor of Austria as to the real state of Mexico.

The *Patrie* asserts that the measures taken by the Juarez agents to obtain volunteers in the United States have been wholly without result.

The Empress of the French on Monday received the new Ambassador from the Ottoman Court.

ITALY.

The negotiations between the King of Italy and the Pope are evidently going on, for Signor Vegezzi passed through Leghorn on Monday on his way to Rome. As a comment upon this fact, it may be remarked that a meeting has just been held in Turin, presided over by Senator Sforza, at which a resolution was passed condemning all negotiations between Italy and Rome which are not on the basis of the cessation of the Pope's temporal power. The meeting passed a general resolution declaring that Italy belongs to the Italians, and inviting all Italian towns to adopt a similar declaration.

Italy is at present indulging in national celebration of the anniversary of the Statuto—the act which converted it from a bundle of small States into an independent and united kingdom. Some disturbance took place in the streets of Naples a few days ago, caused, it is said, by the intemperate conduct of some priests in a religious procession, who, indignant at a bystander refusing to take off his hat, knocked it off and beat him. Nothing serious, however, arose out of the affair.

PRUSSIA.

In the sitting of the Chamber of Deputies on the 1st Herr von Bismarck made a speech on the Schleswig-Holstein question, in which he said:—

Our demands have for their object solely to place Germany in a defensible condition by sea and obtain a guarantee which may prevent the necessity of another attack upon the Doppel fortifications. These conditions are moderate. As long as no pretender can show what in our opinion, would be a better title to the Duchies than our own, I do not know who should contest our possession. The Dukedom of Schleswig-Holstein and Lauenberg is vested in the Sovereigns of Austria and Prussia. Their Majesties' purpose to convoke the Estates, and they will neither constrain that body nor allow themselves to be constrained by it. If no understanding be arrived at, no one-sided proceeding will be able to make us quit the Duchies. If you doubt our right, make your vote of supplies dependent upon the condition of our acquiring Kiel, and say, "No Kiel, no money."

On the 2nd, the Bill for the increase of the Prussian navy came on for discussion. Herr Bismarck repelled the assertion that the Government had entered into negotiations with Denmark for the surrender of North-Schleswig. He said:—

The non-settlement of the question of the Duchies is attributable to the dilatory declarations of the Duke of Augustenburg. If the Duchies agree to our conditions, it is indifferent to us what Constitution they give themselves.

Upon a division being taken, the Government bill was rejected by a large majority.

Austria, replying to the note of Prussia, consents

to the convocation of the Provincial Estates of Schleswig and Holstein, in accordance with the Constitution of 1854, in order to vote an electoral law for the common Diet of the two Duchies.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

The health of the King of Belgium is said to be still unfavourable.

Mr. Massey, the newly-appointed Finance Minister for India, is reported already very unwell.

Some unaccountable delay has occurred in the arrival of the Australian mail at Point de Galle. The letters and papers will at all events be very late this month.

The Bombay mail has arrived. Cholera prevails in various districts in India, and has proved extremely fatal. Warlike operations have been suspended in Bhootan until the wet season is over.

The French Government has prohibited a movement for a two-sous subscription for a medal to be presented to Mrs. Lincoln. The subscription-lists have been seized. In the provinces the gendarmerie have taken the money obtained by the subscription.

"The Princess Dagmar," says the *Indépendance*, "who with her mother visited the young Grand Duke of Russia at Nice, has just received the order of St. Anne of Russia, with a yearly dotation of 40,000 roubles. The Princess is expected to visit the Court of St. Petersburg during the summer."

A few days ago M. Guizot, at his seat of Val-Richer, near Lisieux, passing without a light from one room to another, struck against a piece of furniture and fell, inflicting a severe contusion on his head. The Rouen journals state that he is recovering.

General R. E. Lee (*says a Richmond correspondent*) will soon leave the city and repair to his farm, situated near the famous White House, on the Pamunkey river, to spend the remainder of his days in peace, quiet, and agriculture, if unmolested by the Government. His son, General Custis Lee, is already on the farm alluded to, and is actually doing his own ploughing in person.

GENERAL GRANT AND MR. SEWARD.—A correspondent to the *Eastern Press* writes that General Grant had a most affecting interview with Secretary Seward a few days since. The secretary grasped the general's hand with great emotion, and exclaimed, "Thank God! General Grant, you are alive!" The general, who is so stoical amid scenes of carnage, broke down completely. The sight was a shocking one, for the two dreadful gashes on each side of the face so disfigured the grey-haired old man that his friends can scarcely recognise him.

TRADE WITH THE SOUTHERN STATES.—The New York correspondent of the *Daily News* says:—"Trade with the South is reviving rapidly. Ships for the various Southern ports are now clearing by the dozen every day, and the extensive demand for every species of goods which will now spring up over the whole of the Slave States will doubtless far more than compensate for the heavy falling off in Government orders. The manufacture of army clothing, and of arms, munitions, and the purchase of coals and provisions, which have been going on so tremendous a scale for some time past, have all but ceased, and if it were not for the reopening of the Southern trade the shock thus given to Northern industry might have been a sharp one."

HOW JEFFERSON DAVIS WAS DRESSED WHEN CAPTURED.—A correspondent of the *New York Tribune*, in describing the capture of Jefferson Davis, says:—"Captain Hudson had detached a strong guard around the tent where Davis was supposed to be, and when the firing commenced, thinking his duty called him to the fight, he left the tent in charge of a corporal with orders to let no one pass out. The corporal went to the door, where he was met by a lady, who proved to be Mrs. Davis, and who said that tent was occupied by ladies, and she hoped they would be permitted to dress before being disturbed. Very soon she again and voluntarily appeared at the door, with another person in petticoat, morning dress, and a woollen cloak, with a hood closely drawn over the head, and a pail on her arm. Corporal ordered 'Halt!' which was, course, obeyed, but Mrs. Davis feelingly appealed to the corporal to allow her mother to go to the spring for a pail of water—it was hard, even if they were prisoners, not to be allowed to get a little water for their morning ablutions. Mr. Corporal just then observed that the morning dress was not quite long enough to conceal a pair of boots looking rather too heavy for 'mother' to wear, and, with his Spencer carbine presented to the aged lady's head, ordered her to remove that cloak. The argument was persuasive even to the chivalry. The disguise was removed, and Jefferson Davis appeared in full view."

SIR MORTON PETO, in connection with a company, has "undertaken to construct a boulevard at Algiers surmounting a rampart 6,500 feet in length," to be completed this year. "The Boulevard de l'Impératrice," by which name it is known, looks extremely handsome on approaching Algiers from the sea. It is raised upon lofty arches, which are already being let as shops and warehouses, and the promenade overhead promises to be the most fashionable in Algiers. Mrs. G. Albert Rogers, in a book on Algeria just published, says:—"In the works going on here under Peto and Co., work on the Sabbath has never been allowed, to the amazement of the French builders and contractors, who frequently remonstrated at first on the folly of such a proceeding. When some Government works were recently commenced, all hands were as usual engaged on the Sunday, and the contractor tried to convince Sir M. Peto's superintendent of the great economy of time and consequently of

money which would accrue to them. 'I doubt it,' replied Mr. H., and proceeded to assure his friendly adviser that, independently of the religious command, men must have one day's rest in seven. He pointed out to him that whereas Peto's men always came back fresh to their work every Monday, his (the French) workmen usually took Monday as a holiday, having worked on the day of rest, and, from those who did continue at their posts, only an average of six days' work would be the result of their seven days' labour. His friend listened incredulously, shrugged his shoulders, and promised to think it over. The result of his observations so verified Mr. H.'s remarks, that in a short time a marked difference took place in Sunday labour, not only on this particular building, but on other Government and public works."

THE AMERICAN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY.—At the annual meeting of this society, held at New York on May 9th, Mr. Garrison, its founder and president, proposed the following resolution:—

Whereas, the formation of the American Anti-Slavery Society was rendered necessary by the universal complicity of the nation in the guilt of the slave system—Church and State, Government and People, Constitution and Union, all being wickedly subservient to the will of a Heaven-defying slave oligarchy; and, whereas, after thirty years of faithful testimony and untiring labour on the part of this society to procure the emancipation of the millions held in bondage—and through Divine retribution poured out without mixture, and the treasonable attempt of the South to dismember the Union and overturn all free institutions—it is decreed by the nation that all fetters shall be broken, every bondman set free; and, whereas, it is not for Abolitionists to affect exclusiveness, or seek isolation from the great mass of the people, when the reasons which compelled them to take such a position no longer exist; therefore, resolved, that uniting our thanksgivings to God with those of the emancipated millions at the South for the wonders He has wrought, and rejoicing with joy unspeakable that "the year of Jubilee is come," so that further anti-slavery agitation is uncalled for, we close the operations and the existence of this society with the present anniversary.

Mr. Wendell Phillips opposed the motion in a vigorous speech, on the ground that the Constitutional amendment abolishing slavery is not yet ratified, and consequently the system of slavery stands in the eye of the law untouched; and that there are still thousands of slaves legally held within the United States. Besides Mr. Phillips, Mr. Garrison's motion was opposed by Mr. Frederick Douglass, the Rev. S. J. May, Mr. Bernard, and others, and was lost, forty-eight voting for it and 118 against. The announcement of the vote was received with loud and prolonged applause. When the officers for the ensuing year were nominated, Mr. Garrison was unanimously re-elected president. As he declined, however, any longer to act with the society, on the ground that its work was done and that it should now be dissolved, Mr. Wendell Phillips was elected in his place, and took the chair amid great applause.

Parliamentary Proceedings.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

On Thursday, the Metropolis Sewage and Essex Reclamation Bill was read a third time upon a division by 49 to 4. The Prince of Wales was present, and for the first time took part in a division, his Royal Highness recording his vote with the majority. The bill was then passed.

On the motion of the Marquis of CLANRICARDE, the Public-houses Closing Act, which had passed the Commons, was read a second time.

CLERICAL SUBSCRIPTION BILL.

Earl GRANVILLE moved that this bill be read a third time.

Lord CHELMSFORD proposed that the word "or" in the twenty-sixth line of clause 4 be struck out. The amendment was agreed to.

Several other verbal amendments were proposed by Lord CHANWORTH and Lord CHELMSFORD, and agreed to.

The Earl of SHAPESBURY said that had he been present on Monday and Tuesday evenings he would have ventured to address a few observations to their lordships upon that bill, but he had been unavoidably absent on both of those occasions. He would, therefore, then content himself with merely stating that he accepted that bill as a most valuable middle term, considering the difficulties which surrounded its subject. He rejoiced that so many eminent men of discordant opinions had arrived at a unanimous conclusion on that question, and he did hope and trust that by the blessing of God the measure would operate beneficially to the interest of the Church.

The bill was then read a third time and passed.

Their Lordships adjourned at a quarter-past six o'clock.

On Friday, the following bills received the Royal Assent by Commission:—Metropolitan Houseless Poor; Public Offices (site and approaches); India Office (site and approaches); Tories, Robbers and Rapparees; Police Superannuation; County Voters' Registration; and a number of private bills. There was a brief conversation about the case of Catharine Gaughan, and several bills were advanced a stage. The House, at twenty-five minutes past six o'clock, adjourned for the Whitmon recess to Monday next.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

On Thursday, in answer to Mr. Newdegate, the ATTORNEY-GENERAL said that his attention had been called to the fact that certain charitable societies in Ireland were issuing tickets which certainly came within the meaning of lottery-tickets, and unless those issues came within the Art Unions Act they were illegal.

In answer to Mr. Shaw Lefevre, Sir G. GREY said

that no license had been issued by the Crown to the Convocation of Canterbury for altering the form of subscription now taken by the clergy, but arrangements had been entered into by which an application for a license might be made, and he had that day received such an application, but in such form as required consideration. The Convocation of York had fully concurred in the alteration proposed.

In answer to Mr. Bentinck, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER stated that he should withdraw the Bank-notes Issue Bill; but he hoped to take up the question hereafter on broader grounds.

In answer to Mr. Whiteside, Mr. MONSERR stated that the resumption of the consideration of the Roman Catholic Oath Bill was fixed as the first order of the day for Monday, June 12.

On the order for going into a Committee of Supply, Mr. WALDEGRAVE-LESLIE called attention to the difficulties connected with the draining and improvement of landed property in Scotland, under Drainage and Improvement Acts, from the want of an architect or land surveyor in the London office of the Inclosure Commissioners acquainted with the Scotch system of draining, and the requirements of and mode of erecting farm-buildings and cottages in Scotland. Sir G. GREY said the subject was one of considerable importance, and he would communicate with the Inclosure Commissioners.

Mr. B. COCHRANE asked for an explanation of the extraordinary and extravagant expenditure on the lighthouse on the Basses Rocks, at Ceylon. He read an account of the sums voted year after year for several years, amounting to 80,000*l.* or 90,000*l.*, for this lighthouse; yet there was no lighthouse at all on these rocks, and he wished to know what had become of the money. Mr. MILNER GIBSON said attempts had been made to erect this lighthouse, but the great difficulties attending the undertaking had been underrated. In short, the money spent had been thrown away. A lightship had been moored off the reef, and would prove an economical substitute.

The House then went into Committee of Supply on the Civil Service Estimates, when a long list of votes passed the Committee, most of them without any or with very little discussion.

ENGLISH EDUCATION VOTE.

Mr. H. A. BRUCE moved the vote for education, viz., 693,078*l.*, as compared with 705,404*l.* last year, and stated the number of schools and teachers, and the number of children under instruction in the present year, namely, 1,138,000, as compared with 1,092,000, being an increase in round numbers of 40,000. There had been a slight improvement in the result of the examinations. There had been an increase in the certificated teachers, and a falling off in the number of pupil teachers, while there had been an addition to the applications for grants to schools fulfilling the conditions required. The right hon. gentleman stated the object of a minute issued recently by the Committee of the Privy Council for Education, applicable to endowed schools, and which proposed to extend to all schools of that kind the same privilege which had hitherto been granted only to rural schools.

Mr. SELWYN complained that no reference had been made in the statement to the innovations made by the Committee of Council contrary to the original practice, and also, in his opinion, to the express terms of the Code with respect to grants to schools connected with the National Society.

Mr. BRUCE—I intended to say that that subject was under the consideration of the committee of this House.

Mr. SELWYN hoped that, until this question was decided by the committee or by the House, these innovations would not be continued—at all events that no further innovations would be introduced.

Parliament did not attempt to undertake the general education of the poor; it relied upon the denominational system, and merely supplemented the efforts of those who believed that religion was the most important element in education, and, in fact, was the basis of all education. (Hear, hear.) He hoped, therefore, that no further progress would be made with these innovations, and that some amicable solution of the question would be arrived at. Upon the subject of endowment, he thought his right hon. friend had taken a rather one-sided view. No doubt, endowments lessened the amount of voluntary contributions, because these contributions had really thereby been commuted. For example, the squire of the parish gave a voluntary contribution year by year, or else he or some ancestor of his charged his estate with an annual payment, in which case the voluntary contribution became unnecessary. Was there any justice in saying that where a man gave an annual subscription the Committee of Council should give a certain proportionate contribution in aid of it, but if the same man made a permanent charge in favour of the school the Committee of Council should deduct that from the amount of their grant? (Hear, hear.) Not only was there no justice in such a system, but it injured the cause of education itself. Annual subscriptions were hazardous, uncertain, precarious; but the Government were doing all they could to prevent this revenue from being replaced by a fixed and permanent charge, and so to prevent the school from becoming independent. (Hear, hear.) Another point which he thought required reconsideration was the rule requiring schools to have a certain amount of ground attached. No doubt it was an important object to procure proper ventilation, but it was also right to consider what it was possible for managers of schools to do. In some places the land required was very valuable, and it became almost impossible to acquire the quantity required by the Committee of Council.

Mr. BRUCE stated that the Committee of Council did exercise a very large discretion with respect to the space required for schools. The circumstances of each case were considered, and when it was found

impossible to acquire the land required under the Revised Code, large allowances were made. With respect to the conscience clause, the reason he had not entered on that subject was because it was one of the important matters now under the consideration of the select committee. He differed entirely from his hon. and learned friend in reference to endowed schools, for they had not the advantage resulting from the interest evinced for schools by the local contributors.

The vote was agreed to.

The vote for the Science and Art Department was then taken. A discussion of the usual character on this vote ensued, and Mr. POTTER, having moved the reduction of the item of 36,500*l.* in respect of the National Art Training School by 1,000*l.*, a division took place, in which the amendment was rejected by 80 to 16.

Mr. DILLWYN moved the omission of the item of 10,000*l.* for the purchase of specimens of art, ancient and modern, for the South Kensington Museum. On a division, the amendment was lost by 81 to 24.

The vote was agreed to, and the House resumed.

The Record of Titles (Ireland) Bill was committed, and some progress made with the clauses.

The remaining orders of the day, numbering upwards of forty, were afterwards gone through, and the House adjourned at ten minutes past two.

On Friday, at a morning sitting, the Writs Registration (Scotland) Bill was taken and debated on the motion for going into committee, Mr. DUNLOP having moved that it be referred to a select committee. The discussion was not concluded when the House adjourned until six o'clock.

THE CANADIAN DELEGATES.

At the evening sitting, Mr. CARDWELL was able to give Mr. Warner the assurance that the *Owl's* story as to the Canadian delegates having got all matters settled was untrue. The negotiations are still in progress, and as soon as they are concluded the House is to be informed of the result.

LONDON UNIVERSITY.

On the motion that the House at its rising do adjourn to Thursday next,

Mr. G. DUFF called attention to the claims of the University of London to be provided at the national expense with a building suitable for its purposes, and worthy of the position which it occupies amongst the educational institutions of the country. He urged that all that was required was a building adapted for the conduct of the examinations, and containing a museum, a hall, and a library, situated centrally in the metropolis.

Mr. W. COWPER admitted that the accommodation at present afforded to the London University in Burlington House had become inadequate, and the subject of adding to that accommodation had been under the consideration of the Government; and it was a question whether its present suite of rooms might not be extended, or a special building erected, with relative advantages, and the subject of expense would be duly weighed.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Mr. H. J. BAILLIER called attention to the proceedings of the Ordnance Select Committee, and showed that 110-pounder Armstrong guns having been found useless for naval purposes, had been superseded by the 64-pounder shunt gun, which was to be superseded by a new one called the Woolwich gun, which it was believed would be also a failure. Therefore it was necessary for the House to interfere and to see that this important matter was properly dealt with.

Colonel HENBERT inquired whether instructions had been sent to General Cameron, in New Zealand, to withdraw from the acting chaplains of the troops their pay and allowances.

Mr. H. VIVIAN inquired who was responsible for the adoption of any small arm or gun for the army?

The Marquis of HARTINGTON stated that the Secretary for War was responsible for the adoption of any arms in the service. He said that it was never denied that inventors were not members of the Ordnance Committee, and no rule had been laid down making this a disqualification; but the instances adduced of inventions of members of the committee having been adopted were confined to two, and did that prove that it was an inventing body? That which had been called the Woolwich gun was one which had been rifled on the French principle, and it was not an invention of the committee. An order had been sent out to New Zealand to reduce the number of temporary chaplains when a sufficient number of commissioned chaplains to the forces were sent out.

The motion for adjournment was then agreed to.

THE FORGED PETITIONS.

The House took up the report of the Azeem Jah Petitions Committee. That committee say that one George Morris Mitchell has forged signatures to petitions, and that he ought to be adjudged guilty of a breach of the privileges of the House. Mr. C. FORSTER moved a resolution to give effect to the report of the committee, and a warm debate followed. Mr. HENNESSY opposed the motion, which found supporters in the Attorney-General and various other members. Eventually the motion was carried by 41 to 7, and Mr. Morris Mitchell was ordered to be committed to Newgate, there to remain during the pleasure of the House.

A motion for taking Henry Whitehead and Powell, Mitchell's accessories in the matter, into custody by the Serjeant-at-Arms, was then made, briefly discussed, and a division followed, in which the motion was carried by 39 to 5.

IRISH EDUCATION.

The House then went into committee of supply on

the Civil Service Estimate, class 4, beginning with the vote for education in Ireland—namely, 325,583*l.* Sir R. PEEL made a statement with regard to the progress of national education in Ireland, showing a considerable increase in the number of schools and pupils, especially Roman Catholics, necessitating an addition of 8,813*l.* After discussion the vote was agreed to, as were several other votes before the House resumed.

The District Church Tithes Bill passed through committee.

Mr. VILLIERS obtained leave to bring in a bill to continue the Poor-law Commission for a limited period, and to make certain amendments in the law regulating the relief of the poor.

The House adjourned at twenty minutes to one o'clock until Thursday next.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

The *Scotsman* says it has reason to believe that the dissolution will take place during the first week in July.

BEDFORD.—The present members, Mr. S. Whitbread (Liberal) and Lieutenant-Colonel William Stuart (Conservative), will again offer themselves. Should the Liberal party, however, bring forward another candidate, the Conservatives intend doing the same. Parties being nearly equally divided, it is most probable there will be no opposition. In the county no contest is expected.

BERKSHIRE.—*On dit* that Mr. John Walter, one of the sitting members for this county, intends to retire, and that another Liberal candidate will come forward to contest the county with the Hon. P. P. Bouvier, M.P., and Viscount Uffington, against Mr. Benyon, M.P., Lieutenant-Colonel Lloyd Lindsay, and Colonel Sir Charles Russell, the three Conservative candidates. It was also stated that Mr. Walter would take this step in consequence of the probability that he would be raised to the peerage in acknowledgment of the support given by the *Times* to Lord Palmerston's Government. But there is probably no authority for such a report.

BIRKENHEAD.—On Thursday Mr. W. M. Jackson, the Liberal candidate for Birkenhead, addressed the electors at a crowded meeting in the Theatre Royal. He took the opportunity of disclaiming anything like personal motives in opposing Mr. Laird. He appreciated as much as anybody the high services and the high character of the man against whom he had arrayed himself—(cheers)—but was convinced that it was of vital importance that the borough, which was Liberal in opinion, and had been enfranchised by a Liberal Government, should have a Liberal representative. He would give, not a blind, but an independent and patriotic support to the present Government so long as it persevered in the liberal course it had hitherto adopted. He was not for universal suffrage, but thought a tenancy distinction might be made which would draw a line between the provident and respectable, who ought to have the franchise, and the loose and wandering, who ought not. He advocated the extension of the franchise, too, amongst clerks, professional men, and the educated classes generally. In his opinion it would be best for the Church and for the cause of religion in the country that Church-rates should be abolished. In foreign politics, he was in favour of non-intervention, subject to the maintenance of public law. He could not support the Permissive Bill; he was not a ballot man; and he would support a measure to establish courts of conciliation for preventing strikes.

BODMIN.—Mr. F. H. Heritage, of London, comes forward as a Conservative, in conjunction with Mr. Locock Webb. Mr. Gower and Mr. Wyld, the sitting members, offer themselves for re-election.

BRIGHTON.—Professor Fawcett has issued an address announcing his intention to come forward at the general election.

CHATHAM.—Mr. A. J. Otway, who has been brought forward by the Liberals to contest this borough against General Sir J. M. Frederick Smith, the sitting member, has commenced an active canvass, and during the week has addressed several meetings of his supporters. He declares himself a warm supporter of the present Administration, and of the financial policy of the Chancellor of the Exchequer. He is also in favour of the total abolition of Church-rates, a large measure of reform and vote by ballot, and an extended system of national education.

COVENTRY.—Mr. Osborne Stock and Mr. Mason Jones have issued addresses announcing their intention to come forward as Liberals.

DOVER.—On Thursday evening a large and influential meeting of the Liberal party was held in the Town-hall, Dover, to hear an exposition of the political views of Viscount Bury, M.P., and Mr. Eustace Smith, who offered themselves as candidates in the Liberal interest. Those gentlemen having addressed the meeting at great length, a resolution was passed, adopting them as the Liberal candidates, and pledging the meeting to support their return.

DUMFRIES BURGHS.—Mr. Ewart's seat will be contested by Colonel Clark Kennedy, of Knockgray, C.B., who, it is said, is likely to receive a large amount of support from the moderate Liberal electors in the five burghs.

EDINBURGH.—A brief address has been issued by the present members, the Lord-Advocate and Mr. Black, offering themselves for re-election "a large portion of the constituency having expressed a desire that they should continue their services." On Friday night a meeting was held in the Royal Hotel to present a numerously-signed requisition to Mr. Duncan McLaren, and Mr. John Miller, civil engineer, and

both candidates made a preliminary statement of their opinions. Mr. McLaren expressed his resolution not to stand without a colleague, as on the last occasion of his standing for Edinburgh (1852) he was defeated very much by his own friends distributing their second votes among the other candidates. He was pleased, therefore, to think that he had been called upon to stand along with a colleague of so unexceptionable a character as Mr. Miller. He hoped that, standing together, they would be returned together. (Applause.) He did not now come forward, as had been said, to oppose Mr. Black, or the Lord-Advocate, or anybody. The seats were vacant. (Applause.) Mr. Black had no life-rent in the representation. Mr. Black now came forward for the third time, though when first elected he said he would only sit for one Parliament. It would be more correct, therefore, to say that Mr. Black came forward to oppose him. (Applause.) Mr. Black had come forward rather unwillingly, strengthening the idea that his supporters brought him forward to oppose him. He desired, however, to be considered as not holding any particular view about the franchise, but as holding Liberal opinions, and as one who desired to do all in his power for the interests of the Liberal party, and for the interests of Edinburgh and of Scotland generally. Mr. Miller then addressed the meeting, and stated that he held liberal, or, as some people might think, advanced liberal opinions on the franchise, church matters, and education, as well as matters connected with country life. A resolution in favour of the two candidates was adopted. In seconding it, Mr. J. Grey, jun., said he hoped the electors would let the Lord-Advocate and the nation know that they must have a change in the clerical-police tax, and that the Free Churchmen and Voluntaries would stand together at this crisis.

ESSEX.—The sitting members for Colchester, Mr. T. J. Miller and Mr. P. O. Papillon, are prosecuting an active canvass, as is Mr. J. Gordon Rebow, the Liberal candidate. Mr. R. B. Wingfield Baker has issued his address as a Liberal candidate for South Essex. The hon. gentleman avows himself a staunch admirer of Lord Palmerston, and he describes his political principles as "constitutionally Liberal." At present the circumstances appear favourable to Mr. Baker's return, as there is only one Conservative candidate in the field. Mr. T. S. Western, the Liberal sitting member for Maldon, is canvassing the electors of that town; and his father, Sir T. B. Western, continues to address meetings of the electors in North Essex, where he is opposing the Conservative sitting members, Major Beresford and Mr. C. Du Cane.

EVESHAM.—The candidates are again, Mr. Holland, Liberal, and Colonel Bourne (recently elected on the death of Sir Henry Willoughby), Conservative. There will probably be no opposition to their return.

EXETER.—Mr. Gard retires, and as it is thought the Conservatives will be satisfied with one seat, it is probable that Mr. J. D. Coleridge, Q.C., who, though a Liberal, is opposed to the abolition of Church-rates, will be returned unopposed in conjunction with Lord Courtenay, the Conservative member.

GREENWICH.—The Liberal electors held a meeting on Friday for taking steps to procure a candidate as the successor to Mr. Angerstein, who would be likely to meet the support of the Liberals of all shades of opinion. After some conversation as to candidates who had already announced themselves, and who it was considered had no chance of being returned, it was resolved that Sir John Villiers Shelley, who will come forward if requested by a good requisition, be invited to stand.

GREAT GRIMSBY.—Mr. John Fildes, of Manchester, has issued an address. He will oppose Mr. Chapman in the Liberal interest.

HALIFAX.—Mr. Akroyd has issued his address. Referring to Sir Charles Wood's refusal to oppose him, he says:—

This courtesy I gratefully acknowledge, but should be loth to take advantage of it if thereby I should check his career of public usefulness. To him, however, all the avenues to office, power, and influence remain open; and, whilst far loftier distinctions are before him, I may, perhaps, be permitted to realise the honour which I again solicit at your hands—that of representing my native town in the Commons House of Parliament.

Mr. Akroyd adds that he would support a complete and well-digested Government scheme of reform.

HASTINGS.—Mr. North, the old Liberal member, and Mr. G. Waldegrave Leslie, who was returned for the borough some months ago as a professed Liberal, though opposed to the abolition of Church-rates, are seeking re-election. We are glad to observe that at a recent meeting of Liberal electors, one of the speakers (Mr. Arnold) alluded to the abolition of Church-rates as a measure of much importance in connection with religious liberty, and one which the Nonconformists of the borough would like Mr. Leslie to support. He spoke of the course pursued by Mr. North in terms of approbation. Mr. Ransom suggested that a deputation from the Nonconformists should wait upon Mr. Leslie. There are two Conservatives in the field—Mr. Robertson and Mr. Gorst.

HERTFORDSHIRE.—The Hon. Henry Cowper, brother of Earl Cowper, who unsuccessfully contested the county of Hertford on the death of Mr. Giles-Puller last year, will be a candidate at the ensuing general election. Mr. Cowper's friends are confident of success, their gain in the last registration having been considerable.

HUNTINGDONSHIRE.—It is stated that no opposition will be offered to the re-election of the sitting members for Huntingdonshire, Mr. E. Fellowes and Lord Robert Montagu. At present, at any rate, there is no opposing candidate in the field.

Ipswich.—The Conservatives having started a second candidate in addition to Mr. J. C. Cobbold,

M.P., the Liberals threaten reprisals by finding a Liberal colleague for Mr. H. E. Adair, M.P. Mr. Cobbold and Mr. Adair have been returned for Ipswich since 1847, but both parties have always made a fruitless fight of it at each dissolution. Mr. Tidman, of Sutton Bonington, near Loughborough, is the second Conservative candidate: the Liberals have not yet announced their new champion.

KNARESBOROUGH.—Isaac Holden, Esq., of Oakworth House, near Keighley, is spoken of as a candidate in the Liberal interest.

LAWES.—Mr. Brand has issued his address, asking for re-election, in which he eulogises the Government of Lord Palmerston during its six years of office, dwells upon the measures which have been passed in that period, and declares the necessity for "judicious reform."

MANCHESTER.—On Monday evening a meeting of the selection committee appointed by a previously-reported meeting of Liberals, was held in the Assembly Room of the Free-trade Hall, to receive a reply from the deputation appointed to wait upon Mr. George Wilson; and a meeting of the committee was followed by a meeting of the district ward committees, over which Sir James Watts presided. The chairman stated that Mr. Wilson told the deputation he was sorry that he could not comply with the request of so numerous a meeting as that which proposed to nominate him, and that his duties would prevent him going to Parliament at present. The name of Mr. R. N. Philips stood next upon the list, and he had also been communicated with; but his reply was, that on private grounds he must decline the honour of candidature. It was then reported to the meeting that the selection committee recommended that the Right Hon. T. M. Gibson should be asked to stand for Manchester, and that a deputation should wait upon him to solicit his acceptance of the invitation. On the motion to confirm this recommendation, it was proposed as an amendment that an aggregate meeting should be held in the Free-trade Hall, to select a colleague for Mr. Bazley. After a long discussion the amendment was negatived, and the resolution was carried by a large majority. In order to save time, and without desiring to influence Mr. Gibson's decision, a large section of the meeting deemed it necessary to provide for the contingency of his declining to stand. A proposition to refer the matter back to the select committee, and another in favour of Mr. Alderman Heywood's candidature, having been negatived, it was resolved by a majority that, in the event of Mr. Gibson declining the invitation, Mr. Edward Miall should be asked to allow himself to be nominated along with Mr. Bazley.—*Manchester Examiner.* [Mr. Heywood has, however, issued an address offering himself as a candidate, and it is also stated by the *Manchester Guardian*, that a requisition to Sir Charles Wood is being got up, asking him to stand.]

NORTH WILTS.—Mr. Long (the present M.P. for Chippenham), and Sir George Jenkinson, both stand forward in the Conservative interest. Their candidature has given rise to a somewhat ridiculous controversy respecting the ancestral connections and personal standing of the two gentlemen.

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE.—Mr. G. F. Muntz has been invited to stand in the Liberal interest for this constituency.

NOTTINGHAM.—Sir Robert Clifton is in Nottingham, and his presence and speeches are the occasion of much excitement. At one of his meetings he dared his opponents (Messrs. Paget and Morley) to meet him; he would then ask them three questions each, and upon their answers to these questions he (Sir Robert) would fight the electors' battle of independence to the last, or he would retire. ("No, no," and cheers.) Messrs. Paget and Morley addressed the electors at a noisy meeting held in Hockley Mill on Friday evening. Alluding to a statement that had been made that he (Mr. Morley) preferred the gratification of his own personal ambition to the interests of his (the Liberal) party, he said that if there was one thing which he desired more than another, it was to avoid a division of the Liberal party.

OLDHAM.—The Conservatives have resolved to bring forward Mr. Sergeant Spinks, along with Mr. Cobbett, one of the present members, at the coming election. The requisition to Mr. Platt, from the Liberal party, is now in course of signature.

OXFORDSHIRE.—A few of the leading Whigs have, it appears, entered into a compact with the Tories to this effect—that if the former will allow the three present members to go back to Parliament without opposition, they (the Tories) will not oppose a Liberal candidate whenever a vacancy should occur afterwards. This selling a constituency is most distasteful to a very large number of the Oxfordshire electors, and they are determined to bring out an opponent to the three present members.

SHEFFIELD.—Mr. Alderman Brown has given an answer to the requisition presented to him some time ago to become a candidate for the representation of the borough. The requisition was signed by 2,578 electors. Mr. Brown declines to contest the borough on the ground of ill-health. The sitting members, Messrs. Roebeck and Hadfield, are likely to be re-elected.

STROUD.—The electors of this borough are greatly incensed at Mr. Horsman's "apostasy" in the matter of Reform, and are seeking for a candidate to oust him. Mr. J. J. Powell, Q.C., at present M.P. for Gloucester city, and Mr. W. P. Price, of Tibberton Court, and formerly M.P. for Gloucester, have been named as probable candidates. It is thought that if the first-named gentleman can be prevailed upon to stand, a large section of the Whigs (who are disgusted with Mr. Horsman) and the small but com-

pact body of advanced Liberals would support him heartily, while the Tories, who are not numerous, would unite with the old-fashioned Whigs in supporting Mr. Horsman. It is confidently asserted that if Mr. Price could be induced to stand, Mr. Horsman would not go to the poll.

SUNDERLAND.—Mr. Lindsey will be opposed by Mr. Alderman Caedlish, an advanced Liberal; and Mr. H. W. Fenwick, the senior member, offers himself for re-election. Under the present circumstances of the borough, with three Liberals in the field, it is stated that the Conservatives will bring out Mr. Alderman Hartley, the extensive glass manufacturer, and one of the directors of the North-Eastern Railway.

TEWKESBURY.—Mr. Ralph Dutton is to be brought forward as a Conservative candidate. Mr. Julian Goldsmith is also coming forward as the Liberal.

WAKEFIELD.—A requisition to Mr. W. H. Leatham is being very extensively signed. Sir John Hay has issued an address, in which he states that he has received satisfactory assurances of continued support.

WALLINGFORD.—Captain F. L. Austen, who, a short time ago, offered himself as a candidate on Conservative-Liberal principles, has retired from the field. Mr. G. W. Hastings having withdrawn himself at an earlier period, the contest now lies between Mr. Malins, the sitting member, and Sir Wentworth Dilke, the Liberal candidate. Both have been carrying on an active canvass, but the result is decidedly in favour of the latter. They are, however, equally sanguine of success, and a severe struggle is anticipated.

WESTMINSTER.—Sir John Shelley has retired. The Liberal Registration Committee of Westminster have resolved to adopt Mr. John Stuart Mill and Captain Grosvenor as the Liberal candidates for that city. At the meeting of the committee on Thursday evening, great regret was expressed that Sir John Shelley should have retired, but it was the unanimous opinion that now there ought to be no division in the Liberal ranks. A meeting of Mr. Mill's supporters was held on Thursday evening at St. James's Hall, and votes of confidence in him as a candidate were carried.

WEST NORFOLK.—The Hon. T. de Grey, eldest son of Lord Walsingham, will be a Conservative candidate for this constituency. The present sitting members are Mr. G. W. P. Bentinck (Conservative) and Mr. Brampton Gurdon (Ministerial). There has not been a contest since 1852.

WORCESTER CITY.—Mr. Allsopp has retired from the field here.

ALEXANDRA ORPHANAGE FOR INFANTS.—The first public meeting in aid of this admirable institution was held on Thursday at the London Coffee-house, Ludgate-hill. Mr. Hanbury, M.P., presided, and amongst those present were Mr. Banting, Mr. W. N. Wortley, Mr. B. A. Tomkins, the Rev. Josiah Viney, Mr. W. Youngman, Mr. T. Elsom, Mr. W. S. Gard, Mr. F. Barlow, Mr. George Stenge, and Mr. Joseph Soul. The secretary (Mr. Soul) read the report of the committee, who were of necessity self-appointed, inasmuch as they were the originators of the institution. The report, after expressing the gratitude of the committee for the condescension and kindness of their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, who upon being applied to were graciously pleased and without hesitation to permit their Royal names and patronage to be used on behalf of the charity, to which the Princess of Wales became one of the earliest annual contributors, and permitted it the distinguished honour of assuming the title of the "Alexandra Orphanage for Infants," proceeded to state that the sum of 289. 16s. had been received as annual subscriptions, and 1,233. 15s. 9d. as special and other donations in the short space of about six months for the benevolent purposes of the charity. The committee desired to tender their most hearty thanks to their large-hearted and liberal friend the treasurer (Mr. Frederick Barlow), to whom they were indebted that a home was provided free of rent in addition to his annual munificent contribution of fifty guineas. The committee had been enabled to complete and prepare the house in a suitable manner for the reception of its inmates, and on the 23rd of March were ready for the election of twelve infants out of a list of twenty-four candidates. There will be a second election of twelve infants in November, when, if the institution continues to prosper as it has done, it will be necessary to find larger premises. The report concluded by a formal resignation on the part of the committee. On the motion of the chairman, the report was unanimously adopted. Resolutions were also adopted testifying to the great good the institution was calculated to accomplish, expressing gratitude at the amount of success which had already attended its efforts, and re-electing the committee and officers. Votes of thanks were passed to the committee and officers for their services since the establishment of the institution. Mr. Soul mentioned that, including later contributions, the precise amount received during the six months was 1,704. 8s. 9d. A vote of thanks to the chairman concluded the business.

EAST LONDON EXHIBITION.—Following the example set in other parts of the capital, the working men of the eastern suburb, especially the Home of Industry, have opened a very interesting exhibition in the large room of the Beaumont Institution, Mile-end-road. They seem to have derived no assistance from the local grandees, but relying solely on their own pockets and their own energy, they have brought together a collection of various articles of industry and art contributed by upwards of 400 persons.

Literature.

THE "SIN-OFFERING" AND THE SACRIFICE OF CHRIST.*

A clergyman of the Established Church, Mr. Burgess, has produced a thoughtful and carefully studied treatise on the significance of the Sin-offering and the Trespass-offering. The subject is involved in considerable obscurity, in spite of all that has been written; and Mr. Burgess deserves our thanks for the labour which he has bestowed upon it. Some may, indeed, be disposed to brush aside such speculations as mere waste of ingenuity; but recognising, as we do, the closeness of the tie by which the New Testament is linked to the Old, we are prepared gladly to welcome any light that may be thrown upon the dark places of the latter. By way of opening the present question, let us allow the author to state in his own words the distinction which he considers himself to have ascertained "between the two forms in which 'we find peculiar sacrifice under the law: viz.—

"That the Sin-offering was a continued expression under the covenant of works, of the idea which properly belonged to the piacular sacrifice previously, that is, under the covenant of faith; and that it prefigured the sacrifice of Christ considered as the fulfilment of the promises made to Abraham and his seed, and then to all the nations of the earth—as expiating the sins of the whole world:—but that the Trespass-offering was called into existence by the super-imposed conditions of the Mosaic dispensation: that it was instituted specially for the expiation of transgressions against the law,—that is, of course, of such transgressions as admitted of expiation; and that it prefigured the fulfilment by Christ of all the law's demands, and the deliverance effected by Him from the curse of the law."—Pref., p. vii.

The first thing that strikes the reader is, that if so broad a distinction as the above could have been definitively established,—namely, that the Sin-offering has to do with sin simply as *sin*, while the Trespass-offering was designed to atone for breaches of the Mosaic covenant,—the question could hardly have remained so long an open one. But the conspectus of opinions reproduced by the author from Kurtz, is sufficient evidence that previous ages have been no less in the dark than ourselves; while their perplexity has even induced some to regard the difference as one of words only, and not of the thing itself. And though we find much that is valuable and suggestive in Mr. Burgess's discussion of this point, we cannot see that the difficulties which have prompted such various opinions are yet removed. In the first place, we find it difficult to follow him in his explanation of the ordinance of a "Sin-offering" for a sin of ignorance against the Mosaic covenant. By the fact of its being committed inadvertently, he urges, "it is at once transferred from the special 'category (of a breach of the law), to the general 'category of human frailty." This is ingenious, but does not carry conviction to our mind. Trespass there certainly is, when a positive enactment, even though unknown, is violated; but not sin. And the essence of Mr. Burgess's hypothesis lies in its confining the province of the Sin-offering to the sphere of sin and error, apart from a special legislation. Then again, when all is said, we are still unable to see how the cases of sins of ignorance referred to in Lev. iv., and for which a "sin-offering" is ordered, are to be distinguished generically from those indicated in chap. v. 14—17, and for which a "trespass-offering" is prescribed. The language is in the two cases almost identical, as our author is, of course, perfectly aware; and the natural inference would seem to be that the terms in question were sometimes used interchangeably. They are so used, indeed, in one of the passages quoted by Mr. Burgess, Lev. v. 6, 7; "And he shall bring his trespass-offering unto the Lord for the 'sin which he hath committed . . . And if he be 'not able to bring a lamb, then he shall bring 'two turtle-doves, or two young pigeons unto 'the Lord; one for a sin-offering, and the other 'for a burnt-offering." Still, with whatever deductions, the theory, in part adopted, and in part elaborated by the author is, we have no doubt, substantially correct.

We must notice very briefly one or two other points in Mr. Burgess's treatise. And from one of his deductions we strongly dissent. It is this:—calling attention to the fact, that in certain passages of Scripture, where sacrifice is disparaged in contrast with special service, the "trespass-offering" is not specially referred to, he concludes, that the purpose of the inspired writer was, not what we have described it, but, simply to draw attention to the need of "trespass-offerings," to heal the breach between the worshippers and their covenant God. If Mr. Burgess

* An Inquiry into the Relations of the Sin-offering and Trespass-offering to the Sacrifice of Christ. By WILLIAM ROSCOE BURGESS, B.A., Curate of St. Andrew's, Whittlesey. London: Bell and Daldy.

is right, it seems to us, some of the noblest passages are at once degraded from the zenith of Old Testament spirituality to the low level of ritual pedantry. When the Psalmist exclaims, "Sacrifice and burnt-offerings thou didst not desire, 'mine ears hast thou opened'—or, perhaps rather, "ears hast thou opened in me"—the scope of the entire context, as well as the precise words themselves, assure us that no meaning less broad than that which all criticism has hitherto accepted here, will answer to the magnificence of this example of "Christianity in Judaism."

It still remains for us to indicate the final point of the argument of the present treatise. The purpose of sacrifice was, it is argued, twofold. There was the expiatory element, connected symbolically with the *blood*; and there was the satisfactory element, symbolically represented by the consecration of the *body* of the slain victim. The sacrifice of Christ combined the two ends more specially contemplated in the Mosaic ritual by the Sin-offering in the one hand, and the Trespass-offering in the other. By His "blood" the Redeemer expiated the sin of the world; by the offering of His body, he abolished "the handwriting of ordinances, that 'was against us." His was the great Sin-offering for sin as sin; and His the great Trespass-offering for all violation or ignorance, on the part of Jew or Gentile, with reference to the "Law given by Moses." Mr. Burgess appears to us at times to lay undue stress on particular forms of expression, but his argument here and throughout is worthy of the attention of theological students.

MR. SIMCOX'S ILIAD.†

Yet another version of the immortal lay! The task must possess strange fascination, which, involving so much patient toil as does a faithful translation of a long poem like the Iliad, yet tempts so many to undertake it. The present version, by Mr. Simcox, is, we believe, the first that has yet been published of the whole of either of the Homeric poems, in Hexameter—or what professes to be Hexameter—verse. Some choice fragments have been so rendered by different scholars; but the opinion has steadily gained ground, that the Greek (or Latin) Hexameter is a metre which it is impossible to naturalise in our language. Nor do we think Mr. Simcox's version likely to effect any change in this current of opinion. We admire the industry and general fidelity to the original displayed, but there is little else we can say in the way of praise. It would be unfair to one who has proved himself so devoted a Homerophilist—pardon, reader, the ungainly substantive—to pass sentence of condemnation without giving the reasons why. And this we must briefly do.

First, then, we have nowhere seen a more complete illustration of the general truth of the charges brought against "English Hexameters" by classical scholars. That accomplished Grecian, W. S. Lander, in an ingenious and piquant epigram (brought to our mind by the writer of an excellent article on Homeric Translators, in the last number of the "British Quarterly"), thus amusingly hits off some of their inevitable defects:—

"Person was askt what he thought of Hexameters written in English:
'Show me,' said he, 'any five in continuance true to the meter—
Five where a dactyl has felt no long syllable punct
thro' his midrif,
Where not a trochee or pyrric has stood on one leg at the entrance,
Like a grey fatherly crane keeping watch on the marsh at Cayster.'"

And what is to be said for such an Hexameter as this—

"Place a | larger | vase of | wine, O | son of Me | nois
tio?"

By what complaisant figure of speech—what accommodating catachresis—shall the 'one-legged' trochee place a (/) be interpreted as a spondee—that stately foot which Coleridge so cleverly described in the capital mnemonic verses he wrote for his boy—

"With measured step | slow Spondee stalks?"

In fact, is it not plain that all the three earlier feet of the line above quoted are trochaic rather than spondaic? Or again, what language can we find adequate to the description of such a dactyl as that which stands third in the following measure of six feet:—

"When di | vision a | rose 'twixt that | chief and the | King Aga | memnon?"

In the name of all the laws and principles of prosody, we ask, if *rose 'twixt that* is to be allowed to pass muster as a dactyl, what is there to pre-

* It would be beside our purpose here to discuss the Septuagint version of this clause, reproduced in the Epistle to the Hebrews.

† Homer's Iliad, Translated from the Original Greek into English Hexameters. By EDWIN W. SIMCOX. London: Jackson, Walford, and Hodder.

vent dactyls and anapaests, spondees, trochees and iambs, being mixed up in inseparable confusion? This is "punching a long syllable through the 'dactyl's midriff" with a vengeance! But Mr. Simcox seems to have had exceptional trouble over that last line, and we will give him the benefit of another trial. And here we may intercalate the remark, that the abundance of Grecian proper names in the "Iliad" might naturally be supposed to facilitate Hexameter rendering. Bearing this in mind, let us see what use Mr. Simcox makes of his advantage. The name *Odyssesus* (or as Mr. Simcox prefers to write it, *Odusseus*) very obviously consists of one short syllable followed by two long ones—these latter bearing about an equality of weight. Yet how is this eminently Hellenic name here versified? Let the following lines suffice to show:—

"Him did | first O | dusseus e | spy and did | show
Dio | medes."—(x. 477.)

"Tell me now, | famed O | dusseus, thou | mighty | glory
of | Grecians."—(Ib. 545.)

Assuming that our scanning of these lines is what the author intended—it is at least the best we can compass—can anything more utterly unmusical be conceived? And though Mr. Simcox may perhaps think us inconsistent, we must confess we are not much better pleased with those lines in which he has endeavoured to copy the Greek rhythm precisely, as in the following instance:—

"Next Ery | mas and | Amphot | ros, and | noble
Eph | altes."

In the next place, apart from such considerations as the above, we find Mr. Simcox's Hexameters heavy and monotonous. Mr. Newman has acutely indicated rapidity of movement as one feature of Homeric verse. This feature seems almost entirely lost here—if indeed it be possible to secure it at all in connexion with the lumbering movement of the "English Hexameter." The metre chosen for a version of Homer should, moreover, we think, be one possessing a charm in itself to the English ear, instead of demanding for its comprehension a familiarity with the rhythm of the original. Blank verse, rhymed heroics, ballad metre, have all this advantage; the use of the Hexameter, on the contrary, puts an additional barrier between the unclassical reader and Homer.

We have not much to say respecting Mr. Simcox as a mere translator—apart from his versification. His renderings are usually, though not always, accurate; but we mark few such felicities of expression as might give his version an independent value. It is in this respect that Lord Derby often excels—especially where a bold dash may win the wreath. Mr. Simcox strikes us as inferior both to his lordship and to Mr. Wright. Neither do we approve of the way in which Mr. Simcox has chosen to write some of the proper names. We have no objection to Achilleus—though the English name of that hero is beyond all doubt Achilles; and we recognise the right of Ulysses to his Hellenic designation Odyssesus; but we cannot see what end is gained by spelling the latter name (as, we have seen, is here done) *Odusseus*. Mr. Simcox may not be aware that the letter (v) is in modern Greek the accepted representative of the English (y). The most probable result of Mr. Simcox's orthography—or heterography—is a false pronunciation.

It will be seen that we do not look upon this version as a very valuable addition to our Homeric library.

WOMAN'S WORK.*

When we speak of the working-classes, or the industrial classes, we usually think of working men,—artisans or labourers. But on looking more carefully we see that a large proportion of the working-classes is composed of women—many of them married women, with families which require that special attention which they, and they only, can bestow. In some of our manufacturing towns the "operative" women are so numerous, that the streets seem to be crowded and choked by them when they issue from the factories at the close of their work. In Manchester, Bradford, Halifax, and many lesser towns, the mills pour such a stream of women into the streets at the dinner-hour, that it is difficult to walk against the stream. One of the reasons why these female "hands" have gathered so multitudinously in factories is to be found in the changes which have been wrought during the present century by the marvellous development of machinery. Formerly the fabrication of many of the tissues which are now made by machinery, was undertaken by women at their own homes, and was of a kind not very remote from other domestic occupations. But as machinery developed, and the work of human fingers was superseded by the subtle, swift, and untiring fingers of the loom, the workers were

* Essays on Woman's Work. By BESSIE RAYNER PARKES. London: Strahan. 1865.

gathered into the factory to do the same work, on an immensely larger scale, which they had before done at their own homes. Thus it has come to pass that among factory hands alone, female labour forms a very considerable proportion of the working staff.

There are many other occupations which are largely entered into by women. Domestic servants constitute a very important element of the household economy of the upper and middle-classes. In the agricultural districts women work in the fields and on the farms. There is a large class occupied in various retail shops, both serving at the counter and toiling in the workrooms. Many gain a living by needlework done at home for the shops, and the occupation of these is now very much invaded by the introduction of sewing-machines. In all these ways women who do not aspire to a very elevated position in society may, with more or less of struggle and effort, earn a living. Those, however, who have received an education which is regarded as liberal, and have been accustomed to the refinements of a higher social position, find it a very difficult thing to maintain their standing in society, and earn their own living. The one occupation that seems open to those who are at once needy and educated is that of governess. The sorrows of governesses have often been told, in prose and verse, in essays, novels, reviews, and newspaper articles, in pictures, and even in songs. The weary drudgery, the ill-requited toil, the niggardly acknowledgment of duty conscientiously performed, the haughty treatment, the supercilious neglect or censorious fault-finding, have been repeatedly described. There is doubtless another side to this picture, and examples are not rare in which merit receives just and genial appreciation, and the employer proves to be a sincere and valuable friend. Still the position is a very precarious one for those whose education and accomplishments do not enable them to command first-class appointments. Those who can have not much difficulty in securing comfortable homes and liberal salaries. But on the whole, the avenues to competency or to remunerative occupation for educated and indigent ladies, are neither many nor wide. A reverse of fortune which only turns the boys of a family adrift, and gives opportunity for them to show their manliness and self-reliance and all the brave and active qualities which conduce to success in life, such a reverse may be an irrecoverable disaster for the girls. They have no career open for them into which they can enter with any energy or enthusiasm. No occupation is possible without a surrender of social position which seems equivalent to unutterable degradation. Cases illustrative of this must be familiar to most, or all of our readers. How are these unhappy ladies to work for a living?

One of the chief objects of the very able and thoughtful volume before us is to bring this question home to the minds and consciences of English men and women. Miss Parkes asserts, and with much reason, we think, that fathers of families are too apt to leave out their daughters in their plans for the settlement of their families. They neither provide for them, nor put them into a method of providing for themselves. They trust to their marrying, and being thus transferred to the care of a husband instead of a father. If this chance fail, the case of the portionless lady thrown upon her own resources is sad indeed. The records of the Governesses' Provident Institution show that in many cases the descent is rapid from the parlour to the schoolroom, then to the single room in a hovel, and finally to the workhouse. In exceptional cases, a lady may earn a living by the use of her pen, or by various artistic pursuits, music, painting, wood-engraving, and even sculpture. Many women have achieved success, renown, and emolument, as actresses; some as lecturers or reciters; and a few in America and Germany have lived by the practice of medical art. Miss Parkes advocates the opening of new paths into business for educated women, and that fathers should consider it part of their duty to provide capital for their daughters as well as their sons.

It appears to us that one of the great difficulties to be overcome in any new developments for female activity arises from the upas shadow of aristocratic sentiment that poisons the whole atmosphere of social life among the upper and middle classes. While people associate with one another or stand aloof from one another on grounds which have nothing whatever to do with mental or moral worth or character of any sort, ladies, who are the chief victims, and often the most heartless perpetrators, of these social wrongs, must find an insuperable barrier placed in the way of their entry upon new schemes of occupation. Those who, with the writers in the *Supercilious Review*, think it a good joke to inspect the piety and devotions of a grocer or a shopkeeper through their eyeglass, are not likely

to recognise a lady who earns her living in an office or a shop. Doubtless, the conditions under which a lady may appropriately enter into business life are peculiar. An indiscriminate rush of women into all the occupations now pursued exclusively by men would, if it were possible or conceivable, be most objectionable. Moreover, as long as a suitable domestic sphere is open to any lady, it would generally be very unwise to seek for any other. But while distinctly recognising all these considerations, it seems a plain inference from facts that new methods and opportunities of earning a living are urgently required for large numbers of women, and that "the pride of place and blood" does too often place enormous and indeed insuperable obstacles in the way.

We cannot enter upon all the topics treated of by Miss Parkes. She gives some weighty and much needed criticisms on co-operative schemes, as means of supplying employment for women; and on means of improved education, to fit them for many occupations which require a better mental training than the flimsy, showy, superficial, decorative, the utterly paltry and unsubstantial teaching, which is all that is given to girls in many schools which undertake to provide a complete education for the daughters of cultivated English gentlemen. Miss Parkes's style of writing is always forcible—perhaps occasionally rather superfine—often highly animated and picturesque. She has not only thought and written on behalf of her sex, she has given practical aid to the Society for Promoting the Employment of Women which has its head quarters at Langham-place. When a great practical question is no longer a matter merely for speculation, or controversy, or unreflective laughter—when it is embodied and organised in a movement—there is every probability that its claims will not be much longer disregarded, but will be recognised and responded to.

BRIEF NOTICES.

Symbols of Christ. By CHARLES STANFORD. (Jackson, Walford, and Co.) This volume contains twelve discourses, delivered to the congregation of which Mr. Stanford is pastor. What is intended by "Symbols of Christ" will be best understood from the titles of a few of the sermons,—"The Royal Priest of Salem," "Shiloh," "The Refiner Watching the Crucible," "The Wings of the Shekinah," &c. The subjects have been well studied, not merely as to the religious suggestions they contain, but as to a true and careful exposition. It is frequently evident that a very thorough investigation, conducted with the aid of the best critical interpreters, underlies the popular and rhetorical treatment which the author has adopted. There is thus secured a large amount of solid instruction, in union with much lively feeling and practical meditation. Mr. Stanford's style is less condensed in this volume than in his "Central Truths"; but it has the same features, and the public seems to prize and enjoy its luminous and often beautiful conveyance of simple thoughts. But we are unable to pass such a volume over to our readers with commendatory words, without protesting, and all the more when it is the case of a book so largely excellent, that there is impure taste, artificiality, and a violation of the best established principles of sacred oratory, in such passages as the following:

"It was no face of clay that looked upon the wondering worshipper, it was no human voice that sounded: that form was a form only, a phenomenon that could come and go unaccountably, flash into distinctness, or melt into viewless air, or vanish in the sacrificial flame. It was not the body, but only the appearance, of a man that waited there: and our point is that he who thus appeared was Christ."

"A few poor shepherds, who, perhaps, remembered the wail that was heard in the streets on the night of Herod's coronation, heard a sound in the air still more strange and solemn. They were in the dark fields, keeping watch over their flocks, when on a sudden they became magnetically conscious of a supernatural presence, making them all eye, all ear, all soul. A swift flicker and wave of glory shot across the glistening grass, causing the scenery to swim in light. Chimes of mysterious music stole on the hush of nature, and startled the sleeping wilderness," &c. &c.

Mr. Stanford should consider whether detail that adds nothing significant to the general conception, but only trails prettinesses across it, is worthy of the dignity and earnestness of the pulpit. We think he would not be harmed as an orator by remembering what Aristotle has said of "the becoming" in style,—of the expression of character and feeling, suitably to the subject-matter,—and of "guarding against what savours of poetry."

Memoirs of the Rev. John Pyer. By R. P. RUSSELL. (John Snow.) A man truly worthy of all honour was John Pyer, of Devonport. Like several other ministers who have become eminent amongst Congregationalists, he began his religious life as a Wesleyan. He tasted the fatigue, difficulty, and harassments of "Tent Methodism"; but he had his imperishable rewards. After the change of his theological and ecclesiastical views, he sought actively and devotedly to promote the one end of his calling as a Christian minister. But he did not separate that calling and its work unduly from

the common life and business of men; he was an earnest, good citizen, "a man of the world in the best sense," and intensely interested in whatever tended to social and political advance. The disclosure of his personal religious feeling and opinion, in his letters or journals, gives one the impression of a sound and vigorous spiritual life. Though there was little in Mr. Pyer's life of such incident as can be interesting to the general reader, and little of such individual character as furnishes a study to the thoughtful, there was yet good reason why such a life of labour should be recorded, and glimpses afforded of that inner history whence the labour derived its form and its vitality. It is justly named by its author, "a family biography"; and will be ever delightful to the friends of the good man it commemorates; while all ministers of Christ may find practical suggestion and stimulating example, that will have no little force to hearts honest in the awful work of soul-guidance.

THE MAGAZINES.

We have been attracted to *Macmillan* this month by an article on "The Death of President Lincoln," by Professor Goldwin Smith, and "Lincolniana," by Mr. Dicey. In neither is there much matter for comment; but almost every paragraph might just now make an interesting addition to a column of newspaper miscellanea. So we proceed at once to quotation. Mr. Goldwin Smith thus places alongside each other Washington and Lincoln:—

"Washington was an honourable and high-minded English gentleman, cast in that ancient mould of self-control, dignity, and duty. Lincoln was an English yeoman, with all the qualities of that strong, kindly, and devout race, to which his legal training, not commenced soon enough to alter the ground-plan of his character, had superadded a legal acuteness useful in constitutional discussions, and an abiding reverence for law, which, in spite of a few questionable exertions of his military authority in the shape of arbitrary arrests, never deserted him in the midst of a raging revolution. Between the Presidencies of these two men there was an almost uninterrupted succession of politicians formed in a very different school—the school of French revolutionary sentiments and slave-owning republicanism—the school of which Jefferson was the type and the chief: Jefferson, whose French vanity embittered with slander and intrigue the last years of Washington, and whose bloodthirsty philanthropy, of the true French model, prepared the way for the wicked war of 1812." Doubting whether the assassination of the President was instigated by "the aspiring through unscrupulous men" who were at the head of the Confederate Government, Professor Smith yet holds that "the deed was inspired by slavery"; and adds:—

"Mr. Mason tells us that the spirit of tyrannicide, associated with, and perhaps stimulated by, the name of Junius Brutus, is alien to the 'Conservative South.' But we venture to think he is much mistaken. *Sic semper tyrannis*, as all the world now know, is the motto of Virginia. It means, in the mouth of a Virginian, that the passions of the slaveowner shall be above the law, and that every man who thwarts those passions, though it is in the name of the law, shall be struck down as a tyrant. The tyrannical republics of heathen antiquity were republics of slaveowners. And the spirit of the heathen republics, though by no means their classical grace, is reproduced in the Slave States. The ideal of the Free States, however imperfectly realized, is that of a Christian community, not of a heathen republic."

We turn to Mr. Dicey, who expresses some regret that words written formerly in simple truth and frankness were reproduced in America in such a manner as might leave it doubtful that he desired to honour Mr. Lincoln. He tries now to convey to us the impression made on his mind when residing in Washington, and accustomed to hear the President's character and doings constantly discussed by those who were in daily communication with him. It seems that "old residents"—a sort of aristocracy at the Republican capital—were somewhat ashamed of the head of their nation, as not being altogether a gentleman.

"There is something to me wonderfully touching now about the story how, at the first State-dinner he was present at, when the waiter asked him whether he would take claret or hock, he turned round and asked the servant which he would recommend himself. But still, I think that any honest person would admit that if, like my informant, he had been an American, he would have felt annoyed at this time at this exhibition of ignorance of the ordinary rules of society on the part of the Chief Magistrate of his country. I recollect once being present with Hawthorne at a bar, where a certain very high functionary of the State was drinking, and telling somewhat broad anecdotes to a mixed audience. 'How would you like yourself,' Hawthorne whispered to me, with extreme disgust at his tone, 'to see the Lord Chancellor, or the Prince Consort, liquoring-up at a public bar?' I owned candidly that I should not feel gratified by the exhibition; and I think still that the Washington residents, who were at first bitterly annoyed by the want of breeding displayed by the President, cannot justly be accused of snobbish vulgarity. If at that time they failed to recognise his true merits, they erred only in common with their fellow-countrymen."

Mr. Dicey, like Mr. Goldwin Smith, brings the name of Washington to the companionship of Lincoln's; and thinks our own days produced the "yet nobler representative of American courage, and honesty, and self-sacrifice." The remaining contents of this number are varied enough for all tastes: Mr. Henry Kingsley writing pleasantly "About Salmon"; Mr. Galton giving a first article, very suggestive, and full of surprises even for those to whom the subject is not new, on "Hereditary Character and Talent"; and Mr. Gore

treats with abundant knowledge and right feeling of "Our New Zealand Conquests," and reaching sound political conclusions. Of the new stories, we can only say that "Cradock Nowell" is really remarkable for its originality of character and treatment, and for graceful painting of scenery; and that the author of the "Heir of Redclyffe" has shaken off, we think, something of her well-known mannerism, and manages the novel materials of her story with great skillfulness.

Fraser has its appropriate article on "The Assassination of President Lincoln," by a very able writer, who contributed to the number for January last a paper that drew from us a few words of mingled admiration and half-distrust. It is due to the writer—a strong Abolitionist—that we quote the following passage:—

"I have in the pages of this magazine reviewed the administration of President Lincoln with a severity which the important issue between him and his anti-slavery critics seemed to me to require; and whilst, even with the assistance of my reviewers—some of whom have mistaken opposition to a policy for hostility to a man—I am unable to cancel any statement of fact in that article, I am free to confess that, standing beside the grave into which he has been violently thrust—not for his deserts, but for his virtues—I could wish that its tone had been more tender. None more than his critics recognised that the very shadows which they dreaded were cast by and pointed the sunshine of a heart so free from guile itself, that it failed to suspect the schemings of the baser sort around it. And none of his countrymen will more sincerely and sadly revere those honourable works, perfected in his death,

Which tell some spirit there
Hath sat regardless of neglect and scorn,
Till its long task completed, it hath risen
And left us, never to return : and all
Rush in to peer and praise when all is vain."

At the present moment every one is anxious to know something more than has yet reached this country of President Johnson, whose unfortunate inauguration scene brought on him for a time the contempt of the whole world; and we are glad to be confirmed in the belief that it was undeserved, by one who evidently knows much more than even well-informed Americans resident or travelling here have been able to tell us in reply to our inquiries. We can hardly omit the following anecdote:—

"We have full reason to believe that he feels warmly for the negro race, and appreciates its position. Since he became President, Mr. Johnson has been visited by a deputation of negroes, to whom he said among other things: 'Where the coloured people know me best, they have confidence in me. No man can charge me with having proved false to the promises I have made to any class of people in my public life.' It is probable that he remembered the occasion when he addressed the assembled negroes in Tennessee. It was the best speech he ever made, full of touching and pathetic burst, and of masterly invective against the crimes of slavery. When he said that he hoped that a Moses would arise to lead them to the promised land of freedom, the negroes shouted with one voice, 'You are our Moses.' 'God, no doubt,' continued Mr. Johnson, 'has prepared somewhere an instrument for the great work. He designs to perform in behalf of this outraged people; and in due time your leader will come forth—your Moses will be revealed.' 'We want no Moses but you!' shouted the negroes. 'Well, then,' replied the speaker, 'humble and unworthy as I am, if no better shall be found, I will indeed be your Moses, and lead you through the Red Sea of war and bondage to a fairer future of liberty and peace.' When, at length, January 13, the Tennessee Convention abolished slavery, he addressed them in a fervid speech. 'You have broken the tyrant's rod, and set the captive free,' he exclaimed; 'you have sounded the death knell of negro aristocracy, and performed the funeral obsequies of the thing called slavery. I feel that God smiles on what you have done. Oh, how it contrasts with the shrieks and cries and wailings which slavery has brought on the land!'"

An article, very elaborate, on "England's Future Attitude towards Europe and towards the World," bearing the subscribed initials, "W. R. G.", is no doubt by Mr. Rathbone Greg; and, if discussed at all, would rather call for a political leader than a sentence of a notice of the periodical in which it appears. We shall, therefore, quote without remark, its conclusion:—

"When, therefore, we look to the prospect of what we may be called upon to do and bear in order that the promise of almost illimitable grandeur lying before our colonies, and ourselves in union with them, shall not be marred or blighted—of the inescapable and incalculable claims of our Indian possessions both upon our military and our administrative powers—of the work which is all but certain to be forced upon us in China and Japan—and of the drain upon our strength and the field for our genius and enterprise which these several vistas open out before us,—may not we be considered to have proved our first proposition conclusively and overpoweringly—viz., that the more we can restrict and retire from European action, the stronger and more dignified will be our position, and the fitter and readier shall we be for the work which God has given us to do?" Mr. Rossetti discusses the doings of our artists and the interests of art in a paper on "The Royal Academy Exhibition"—full of finely stated principles and practical suggestions on questions connected with the exhibition of works of art, and of brief, definite, large-minded criticism of the works of particular painters. On the whole, he thinks that a first impression of this year's exhibition must be, that "the level is high, and 'the interest more than ordinary'; but that 'deliberate' attention rather tends to weaken this estimate." Of the article, "English Ultramontanism, part I.", we may say, that it has been provoked—that seems the right term—by the essays of Dr. Manning, Cardinal Wiseman, and Mr. Lucas, in the volume on "Religion and Literature" recently published under the editorship of the new Westminster Archbishop, and which the writer regards as having "the nature of a manifesto,"

and as, he says "parallel in some degree to the 'Essays' and 'Reviews'"—which, however, it has always been denied by the writers were of "the nature of a manfestato," but there is the highest probability that this writer knows what he says. The article has many good and serviceable things in it; but it is necessary to say that it is written from the point-of-view, apparently, of extreme "liberalism" in theology, and extreme dogmatism in science.

The *Cornhill* has nothing of very real interest, or calling for special remark. There may be found some present appropriateness, however, in the following words on "Provincialism":—

"The peculiar narrowness which is so characteristic of provincialism produces some important results on the public life of the country. What are called 'local' claims are often pushed to an extreme in elections; and the big brewer or banker, who subscribes to the races and the infirmary, and who can afford to give big dinners during the session to his supporters, is returned to Parliament, to the exclusion of men of brains, culture, and distinction. Provincialism fosters religious bigotry also; sends up petitions of a ferociously Sabatarian and ultra-Protestant character; and is apt to support proposals for enabling men to deprive their neighbours of malt liquor. All this comes from the higher elements of such place having gravitated under the influence of centralisation; or from what is left of those elements being swamped by the second and third rate people among whom it is left. Why does a great town like Newcastle, for instance, exclude novels from its literary institution? Simply because the physical sciences are more immediately profitable to the growth of the place—an essentially provincial reason. Every 'place' ought to be, according to its resources, a fair type of the whole civilisation of the country; strong, of course, in the particular points for which nature and history have marked it out; but not destitute of, or hostile to, whatever adds to the charm, culture, grace, and general humanity of other places. The tendency of the provincial spirit, however, is to devote one town to coals, a second to cotton, a third to iron, and so on; and to drive everything else away to seek its fortune. The northern cities have allowed the University of Durham to decline, not because they prefer Oxford and Cambridge, but because they are indifferent to the kind of education which it is willing to give. The decay of so many old grammar-schools in county-towns is another symptom of the same kind. When once a town is attacked by provincialism, it loses its relish for ideas—it intellectual ambition. Naturally the able men born in it begin to run away. At last comes a stage when it imports ideas, like the fashions, from London, and gets its intellectual life down by the train. Surely all this may be pushed too far."

The tales are about "as usual"—our opinion of each remaining unchanged: and there again is a thoroughly well-informed and able article on "The English Drama in the Reigns of Elizabeth and James."

Blackwood, besides new instalments of "Piccadilly" and "Miss Majoribanks," has readable "Notes and 'Notions from Italy,'" dated "Turin, April, 1865"; a second paper on "The Bank Rate of Interest"; and a closing article, thoroughly characteristic, on "The Government and the Budget." From the latter we take, for our readers' amusement, a scene in the Commons, and what is said to be a scene in the Cabinet, both conveying an implication which Mr. Gladstone's speech at Chester must have delightfully confirmed to the writer.

"If any evidence were required to prove that Lord Palmerston is the present Government, and the present Government Lord Palmerston, the exhibition which the Ministers made of themselves on the occasion of the recent debate on Mr. Baines's motion would abundantly supply it. Poor old Pam was down with a fit of the gout when the dreaded motion came on. He was too ill even to see and advise with his colleagues as to the course which they ought to pursue; and so, on the Wednesday, when Mr. Baines rose to address the House, nobody on the Ministerial benches knew either what he was to do or what was expected of him. Then followed a scene which few of those who witnessed it are likely ever to forget. The great Liberal party, as it is called, broke off into two camps. What Mr. Baines advocated, Lord Echo ably and gallantly resisted; what Mr. Stansfeld pressed with such weight of argument as he could bring to bear, Mr. Lowe utterly demolished. Then was seen on the Cabinet bench a spectacle such as in modern times has rarely astonished the Senate. The Ministers spoke together—not in quiet whispers—but with eagerness, much gesticulation, and warmth. The Chancellor of the Exchequer made a movement as if to get upon his legs, and was with difficulty restrained; and the Lord Advocate jumping up, nobody would hear him. Fortunately for the Cabinet time ran his course, and the bell rang to announce that the fatal hour of six was at hand. The debate stopped at the bidding of the Speaker, and the members went home."

"The progress and issues of the debate he [Pam] insisted upon knowing. They were communicated to him unreservedly, and he at once summoned a Cabinet Council, which met at Cambridge House. Not having been present at that meeting, we cannot pretend to give a detailed account of its proceedings, but the issues to which it led have leaked out. Lord Palmerston, we understand, informed Mr. Gladstone that if he was determined to speak in favour of Mr. Baines's motion he must resign the seals. Mr. Gladstone, proud and irritable, and full of self-conceit, at once accepted the alternative, and was with difficulty prevailed upon to give way, rather than break up the Cabinet. Hence his silence during the second debate on Monday, the 8th of May—a reticence so painful to himself, that it would not at all surprise us if he took an early, and probably a most inconvenient, opportunity of accounting for it. Be this, however, as it may, Mr. Gladstone held his peace, when his friends of Leeds, Manchester, Liverpool, and Bolton expected him to speak, and submitted to be marched out, a silent and disgruntled voter, into the same lobby with Sir George Grey, Mr. Milner Gibson, and Mr. Baines.

There is nothing in the article that has any likelihood of political interest or influence.

The *Christian Spectator* has great vigour and variety. A sermon of Dr. Bushnell's on "Integrity and Grace," should be read with profit as pregnant suggestion of the truths belonging to one of the many relations of faith and morality. A thoughtful and graceful review of "Angel Visits," commends to notice a volume of true poetry, which has unusual depth and spirituality. "Six Hours with the Anthropologists" reports recent discussions on missionaries and their work; and it is uncommonly forcible and decisive in its putting of the facts: we wish it may be read by all who heard of the Anthropologists at Exeter Hall this year. We call attention to the dialogue between a candidate and an elector, on "Church-rates," as true to the right electoral policy, and most appropriate and likely to be useful at the present moment. "Religious Extravagances and Vulgarisms," is also a word in season, with which we heartily and altogether sympathise; and from which we should certainly quote (as also from the article last named) if we did not feel that the *Spectator* is a magazine which we have a right to presume our readers do not fail to see.

The *Musical Monthly*, with literature of the level we have before desired should be raised, consults the taste of a class of lovers of song not hitherto appealed to by its pages, by giving "St. Feray," a rather free wine-song, which is said to be "a favourite chanson à boire" by Offenbach.

Unable as we find ourselves to notice this month such popular favourites as *Good Words*, *Christian Work*, *Sunday Magazine*, *Leisure Hour*, &c., we must give place to a word as to *The Cottager*, which issues a number entitling it to be considered the very best monthly sheet ever prepared for the homes of our peasantry,—and to *Merry and Wise*, which Mr. Hodder, Old Merry, Mrs. Webb, and Mrs. Howitt, as translator of Miss Brewer, make between them a perfect periodical for our children, for week-day and Sunday. And we close with the *Alexandra Magazine*, which has a sketch that deserves to be known, "The Parson's Wife"; an important article on "The First English School of Medicine for Women," which all will read with lively interest who have any just feeling as to the social employment and influence of women; and a practical article on "Threepenny Beef," which should assist to delay a hasty banishment of nutritious food that some have an interest in bringing into disrepute, but might evidently become an enormous benefit to our poor.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

Eastern England, two vols.; Chapman and Hall. Compendium of Domestic Medicine; Churchill. Origin of the World; Micklem and Co. Her Majesty's Mails; The Great Schools of England; Sampson Low and Co. Little Willie; The Star of Poland; W. Freeman. Evelyn Howard; Book Society. Joining the Church; Helper of Joy; Oliphant and Co. Life's Work; Life of John Clare; The Works of William Shakespeare, vol. vi.; Macmillan and Co. Sermons by W. Hamilton, vol. ii. Hamilton, Adams and Co. Poems of Purpose and Sketches in Prose; Murray and Son. Poems by T. Cox; Hall, Smart and Allen. The Nature of the Bible; Macintosh Assorted Tracts; Tracts for To-day; Jackson, Walford and Co. The Law on its Trial; A. W. Bennett. Sunday School Union's Publications; Magazines, &c., &c.

LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

On Monday the first number of a new penny evening newspaper appeared in London—the much-talked-of *Glowworm*.

"Heart-throbs" is the title of a new volume of papers on social, domestic, and moral life, which Mr. John De Fraine is about to publish.

A new pamphlet by Bishop Colenso is announced. The title is, "On Foreign Missions and Mosaic Traditions." It refers in all probability to the recent discussions at meetings held by the Anthropological Society, when Captain Burton, Mr. Winwood Reade, and others, spoke.

The Rev. F. D. Maurice is about to deliver a course of lectures on "The Representation of the People, how it is connected with the Education of the People," before the Members of the Working Men's College.

Prince Napoleon is now writing a history of the Bonaparte Family, to which his speech at Ajaccio may be supposed to be a preface. The first volume of this history is already in the press.

Raphael's cartoons, designed for tapestry, which have been lately transferred with her Majesty's permission from Hampton Court, are now arranged in the long North Gallery of the South Kensington Museum, and were, with other works of Raphael, exposed to the public on Whit Monday.

Mr. Strahan announces for immediate publication—"A Summer in Skye," by Alexander Smith, 2 vols.; "Hymns and Hymn-writers of Germany," by William Fleming Stevenson, author of "Praying and Working," 2 vols.; "Travels in Turkey in Europe," by G. Muir Mackenzie and A. P. Irby; "Days of Yore," 2 vols., by Sarah Tytler, author of "Papers for Thoughtful Girls"; "Undertones," revised and enlarged, 1 vol., by Robert Buchanan; "The Autocrat of the Breakfast Table," by Oliver Wendell Holmes, 1 vol.; "Poems," and a new and enlarged edition, 1 vol., by Henry Alford, D.D.

Messrs. Sampson Low and Co. announce as immediately forthcoming, "A Walk from London to the Land's End and Back, with Notes by the Way," by Elihu Burritt, author of "A Walk from London to John O'Groats," Svo, with illustrations; and "Way-

* This Article is now reprinted as an Electoral tract.

side Warbles," a new volume of poems by Edward Capern, the Devonshire poet.

A CHRISTIAN SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY.—The *Guardian* has seen a rough draft of the proposed Victoria Institute, a new Philosophical Society for Great Britain, to be composed of Members or Fellows and Associates who are "professedly Christians," and the great object of which will be to defend revealed truth from "the oppositions of science, falsely so called." It is in order to investigate fully and fairly, but rigidly, all the facts and arguments from time to time put forth as truths newly discovered by science and as being contradictory to the Scriptures, that the institution of a new society for this express purpose is proposed. It will be the work of this society to enter upon controversies of the day, and to give a hearing and encouragement to all who are willing to battle with the "oppositions of science," in order to reduce its pretensions to their real value.

Miscellaneous News.

THE DOG SHOW in the Agricultural Hall, Islington, opened on Friday. There are about 2,000 dogs on view. The Prince of Wales shows in several classes. He has greyhounds and deerhounds, and mastiffs and bloodhounds, and in each class he shows some very fine animals.

THE BOARD OF TRADE RETURNS FOR APRIL have been issued. The exports during the month amounted in value to 12,071,111*l.*, against 13,225,039*l.* in 1864, and 11,897,177*l.* in 1863. For the first four months the value of the exports is 47,706,818*l.*, and 49,892,420*l.* in the corresponding period of 1864, and 39,458,381*l.* in the first four months of 1863. With regard to the precious metals, the import in the four months is 5,949,457*l.*, and the exports 4,229,215*l.*

THE WEATHER AND THE CROPS.—The hay harvest has already commenced in Monmouthshire, and several of the leading farmers have commenced cutting. Reports from the agricultural districts of Yorkshire are very favourable to an early and abundant harvest. The hay harvest will begin in a few days, or about a week earlier than usual, and all the cereal crops are healthy and in good condition. The *Bristol Mercury* says:—"Mr. W. H. Masters, of Webington Farm, Compton Bishop, has forwarded us a couple of ears of wheat which he plucked in one of his fields on the evening of May 31. They are well developed, and as early products of this kind must be almost unprecedented."

THE PENSION FOR MRS. COBDEN.—It has been understood for some time past that the Government were disposed to grant a pension to Mrs. Cobden as a recognition of the eminent services of Mr. Cobden in connection with the negotiation of the Commercial Treaty with France. We are enabled to state that the offer has been made in a letter from Lord Palmerston, and that the amount of the proposed pension was 1,500*l.* per annum during the life of Mrs. Cobden. We may further state that Mrs. Cobden has declined the offered pension, at the same time expressing her grateful sense of the kindness manifested towards her by the Crown and the Administration. The public will be glad to know that the family of the lamented statesman are left in circumstances that make any provision on the part of the Government unnecessary.

—*Morning Star.*

THE COTTON TRADE.—It is gratifying to observe how rapidly the labouring people of Lancashire are removing from the list of those dependent upon pauper or other relief. Although it is stated that there are at present 86,000 cotton operatives out of work, the honorary secretary to the General Relief Committee says, on the best authority, in his monthly report just issued, that there are not now 30,000 operatives in the cotton districts without some regular occupation affording them the means of subsistence. It also appears that all but nine of the 170 local relief committees have either suspended their operations or will immediately do so; and the honorary secretary of the General Committee therefore announces that the present is the last statistical record that will be published of the cotton famine.

THE DERBY-DAY this year exhibited all the characteristics for which it is famous. From an early hour on Wednesday morning the metropolis appeared to be emptying its population. The stream of visitors which poured down to Epsom both by road and rail equalled anything of the kind with which modern experience has rendered us familiar. Much of this was no doubt due to the brilliant weather. The crowd on the line of route was as large and as good-humoured as ever. The race itself was won by a French horse—Gladateur, ridden by an English jockey; and the owner, Count Lagrange, is said to have won 70,000*l.* He received an invitation to dine with the Prince of Wales. But the Derby-day was marked with a long list of casualties. Some of the accidents were of a fatal character, and some were caused by the insane tricks which many of those who go to Epsom once a year think it is right to play.

THE CIVIL LIST PENSIONS.—A pension of 100*l.* a-year has been conferred by the Queen on Mrs. Leech, widow of Mr. John Leech. The following are found among the Civil List Pensions for 1864—5:—Mrs. Bingham, widow of Colonel Charles Bingham, of the Royal Artillery, in consideration of her late husband's long and valuable services, and of the straitened circumstances in which she and her children are left—150*l.* Mrs. Boole, widow of the late Professor of Mathematics in Queen's College, Cork, in consideration of his distinguished attainments as an original mathematician of the highest order, and of his remarkable labours towards the extension of the boundaries of science—100*l.* Mr. William Howitt, in consideration of the long and useful career of

literary labour in which both he and his wife have been engaged—140*l.* Mr. Thomas Wright, an author who has contributed much to English literary and political history—65*l.*

THE HANDEL FESTIVAL.—The last but two of the choral rehearsals of the amateur division of the metropolitan portion of the Handel Festival Choir, took place at Exeter Hall on Friday evening, conducted by Mr. Costa. Notwithstanding the wet, nearly 1,500 of the members of the choir were present. The first part of the evening was occupied by the most difficult of the choruses in "Israel in Egypt"; the second part, comprising the music of the selection day, the opening choruses of Handel's comparatively little known oratorio of "Saul," the Coronation Anthem ("Zadok, the priest"), &c., being gone through in succession. The principal singers already engaged for each of the three days of the Festival are Madlle. Adelina Patti, Madame Sainton-Dolby, Mr. Sime Reeves, and Mr. Santley. They will also sing at the great full rehearsal at the Crystal Palace on the preceding Friday, the 23d of June. Acoustical improvements and additions to the centre transept of the Palace, suggested from the experience gained at former Festivals, will be carried out, which, it is anticipated, will add immensely to the effect of the solo voices. To afford the opportunity for persons in various parts of the country witnessing this great musical celebration, the representatives of all the great lines of railway entering London have agreed to issue return-tickets extending over the three days of the Festival, to run excursions for three days from distances exceeding 100 miles, and from 40 to 100 miles distant single-day excursions at such low fares, including admission to the Palace on the rehearsal day, as will place the festival within the reach of thousands hitherto debarred from being present. Considering the great influx of country visitors who will thus swell the numbers on the rehearsal day, the directors have placed the tickets in London under regulations which will tend to limit the issue; consequently, no admission tickets for the great rehearsal will be sold at 5*s.* after Wednesday next, from which time the price will be gradually raised. The engagements with the country performers are all concluded, and from present indications the fullest success is looked for.

WORKING MEN'S CLUB AND INSTITUTE UNION.—The third of these social meetings held in the Lower Hall, Exeter Hall, took place on Tuesday evening. The Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot presided. Among those present were Wilfrid Lawson, Esq., M.P.; John Abel Smith, Esq., M.P.; the Rev. Dawson Burns; and the Rev. H. Solly, secretary to the Working Men's Club and Institute Union, 150, Strand. The noble chairman said he had much pleasure in calling upon Mr. Lawson to introduce the discussion for the evening. Mr. Lawson, after dwelling on the evils of the drinking customs which prevailed in this country, said all were agreed that these were great evils which required removal. Many legal remedies had been sought, but hitherto they had not been found effectual. The remedy of 5*s.* and costs for drunkenness had failed, so also had the law which demanded a good character prior to a licence being granted; legal and moral remedies, including the total abstinence pledge, had all hitherto been ineffectual. There still remained, however, an expedient which he believed would prove an effectual cure, and this was the Permissive Bill, the effect of which he stated would be to put into the hands of two-thirds of the ratepayers in any district the power to control the number of public-houses and the traffic generally in that locality. It would close public-houses not required by public necessity, and prevent their being opened through private interest. After an animated discussion, maintained with considerable ability and good humour, votes of thanks to the noble chairman and to Mr. Lawson were moved by Mr. John Abel Smith, M.P., supported by the Rev. H. Solly, and carried with great enthusiasm. Referring to the service rendered by the noble chairman, Mr. Solly observed that it was no new thing for noblemen and members of Parliament to take the chair and speak from the platform of meetings for the advancement of particular objects, but it was a new and most important fact that they were presiding over and addressing meetings for perfectly free and frank discussion. Lord Shrewsbury, in returning thanks, observed that it was not necessary for the chairman to give a very decided opinion on the subject discussed, but he would say he had great sympathy with the objects sought by Mr. Lawson and others speakers—viz., the suppression of intemperance, and was quite convinced that there ought to be a considerable diminution of the present number of public-houses and beershops. He earnestly wished to see his fellow countrymen in a far happier condition than many of them at present occupied, and for that reason he had joined the Working Men's Club and Institute Union, which he believed was one of the most efficient agencies of the present day for promoting the welfare of the working classes.

Should the council have another such series of meetings, he should only be too happy again to accept the duty he had been asked to discharge that evening. Many persons who had sent up their names not having had an opportunity of speaking when the hour for closing had arrived, Mr. Bainbridge moved the adjournment of the discussion to the following Tuesday, which, being seconded, was carried all but unanimously.

Several of the journals publish a paragraph stating that a Russian lady has just presented to the Pope a pair of slippers, in which were placed 160,000*l.* in bank-notes.

Gleanings.

Why are birds like farmers? Because they depend on their crops for support.

The Social Science Congress is to assemble at Sheffield in October.

An American paper states that the cemetery at Richmond contains 60,000 new graves.

Mr. Lincoln's grandfather, also named Abraham Lincoln, was murdered by an Indian in 1744, while at work on his farm near the Kentucky River.

In the proclamation of outlawry at the Sheriff's Court last week there were no less than three cases against the Hon. Richard Bethell.

On Thursday the tea-duty fell to 6*d.* per pound.

Professor Piazzi Smith has been photographing the interior of the Pyramids, with the aid of the magnesium wire light.

The thorn trees in several parts of London are infested with myriads of small black caterpillars. The branches are entirely stripped of their leaves and are covered with webs.

There are 236 educational colleges in the United States, 87 theological seminaries, and 50 medical colleges.—*New York Paper.*

The Irish papers state that the emigration movement is vastly on the increase. Hundreds of persons sail for America almost every day from Queenstown, and upwards of 1,300 passengers have left London-derry during the last few weeks.

Several Roman urns have been dug up from a railway cutting at Ashford, near Fordingbridge, in Hants.

At Shipton George Church, in the county of Dorsetshire, last Sunday, a swarm of bees took possession of the chancel, and the officiating clergyman was unable to read the communion service at the altar in consequence.

"Gentlemen," said a respectable tallow-chandler, at one of the dinners of trade, "as there is time for only a single toast, I beg to give you 'The Queen' coupled with success to the tallow trade."

Barnum, the keeper of the notorious museum in New York, telegraphed, immediately on hearing of the capture of Jefferson Davis, an offer of 500 dols. for the clothes in which he was dressed at the time of his capture.

MIXED METAPHOR.—The following specimen of this failing is taken from the *Washington Star*:—"The apple of discord is now fairly in our midst, and if not nipped in the bud, it will burst forth in a conflagration which will deluge the sea of politics with an earthquake of heresies."—*The Reader.*

SLOW TUNES AND QUICK TUNES.—I have heard that Rowland Hill, being annoyed at his footbeings singing profane songs whilst cleaning the knives and forks, ordered him, under penalty of dismissal, to sing hymns. But as the work proceeded to the tune of the solemn yet slow measure, Rowland Hill was compelled to tell the boy to return to his old style of profane music, otherwise his knives and forks would not have been ready for dinner.—*Notes and Queries.*

AMERICAN NAMES.—Amongst the many things which the Yankees boys and girls may well remember in their thanksgivings, should be that they are no longer named, "Praise-God Smith," or "Save-Lord-or-I-perish Tompkins," or "Enter-into-the-kingdom-of-heaven-through-much-tribulation Dobba." Nevertheless, I remember a freshman (from Connecticut I think) at College in Carlisle, who declared that his name was Theodore God-bless-my-soul Primrose.—*Fraser's Magazine.*

NOT SO VERY MAD.—When the Earl of Bradford was brought before the Lord Chancellor, to be examined upon application for a statute of lunacy against him, the Chancellor asked him, "How many legs has a sheep?" "Does your lordship mean," answered Lord Bradford, "a live sheep or a dead sheep?" "Is it not the same thing?" said the Chancellor. "No, my lord," said Lord Bradford, "there is much difference; a live sheep may have four legs: a dead sheep has only two, the two fore legs are shoulders; but there are but two legs of mutton."

NEW READING.—An amusing incident occurred recently at a Sunday-school. The subject was the history of Samson, and the question, "What foolish thing did Samson once do?" Expectation was on tiptoe to ascertain his peculiar weakness, when from a front seat came the reply, given with solemn precision and irresistibly ludicrous accent, "He went down among the Philistines and got a wife!"

Money Market and Commercial Intelligence.

City, Tuesday Evening.

The Bank of England lowered their rate of discount on the 1st inst. to 3*½* per cent.

The tendency of the Money Market is towards firmness. The fine weather, combined with low rates of discount, have inspired more confidence.

Consols remain at 89*½* 90 for Money and the 8th inst., and at 90*½* 90 for the 6th July. The New Threes and Reduced Annuities are 89*½* 89*½*; and India 5 per Cent., 103*½* 104*½*.

Foreign Securities are well supported. Turkish 6 per Cent., 1862, are 74*½* 74*½*; ditto Consolidated, 48*½* 49. Mexican, 24*½* 25*½*; ditto New, 24*½* 24*½*. Greek, 21*½* 21*½*. Spanish Passive, 31*½* 32; ditto Certificates, 15*½* 16. Portuguese, 40*½* 49*½*. Italian, 65*½* 66; and Confederate Loan, 7*½*.

The Dublin Trunk Connecting Railway Company,

the prospectus of which appears in another column, is an undertaking to construct a Metropolitan line in Dublin, which, besides answering the purpose of a suburban omnibus line, will command the traffic which now passes between the large trunk lines converging in that city. The London and North-Western Railway will afford their co-operation in developing the traffic over the proposed line. The capital is £25,000,000, in 5,100 shares of 50/- each. The share list will close on the 10th inst. for London applicants, and the 12th inst. for the country.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Friday's *Gazette*.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending Wednesday, May 31.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued ..	£29,569,375
Government Debt	£11,015,100
Other Securities ..	8,634,900
Gold Coin & Bullion	14,919,875
£29,569,375	£29,569,375

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' Capital	£14,558,000
Reserve ..	3,190,279
Public Deposits ..	8,708,848
Other Deposits ..	13,919,45
Seven Day and other Bills ..	511,003
£40,881,161	£40,881,161

June 1, 1865.

W. MILLER, Chief Cashier.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—This purifying and regulating medicine should occasionally be had recourse to during foggy, cold, and wet weather. These Pills are the best preventives of hoarseness, sore throat, diphtheria, pleurisy, and asthma, and are sure remedies for congestion, bronchitis, and inflammation. Moderate attention to the directions folded around each box will enable every invalid to take the pills in a most advantageous manner. They will thus be taught the proper doses and the circumstances under which they must be increased or diminished. Holloway's Pills act as alteratives, aperients and tonics. Whenever these pills have been taken as the resource the results have always been the most gratifying; even when they fail to cure they always assuage the severity of symptoms and diminish danger.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

THOMAS.—May 25, at Mapperley House, Hale-end, Walthamstow, the wife of John W. Thomas, Esq., of a son.

CARPENTER.—May 26, at Stoke, Devonport, the wife of the Rev. R. W. Carpenter, of a daughter.

HAYMAN.—June 4, at Barnstaple, the wife of Mr. B. W. Hayman, draper, of a son.

DAVIS.—June 5, at Upper Whitworth-road, Plumstead, S.E., the wife of Mr. Ebenezer Davis, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

LEWIS—BEWS.—May 20, at the Congregational church, Jamaica-row, Bermondsey, by the Rev. George Rose, Mr. John Lewis, of her Majesty's Customs, Liverpool, to Mary Ann, youngest daughter of the late Captain Robert Bewes, of Rotherhithe.

PIKE—WEDE.—May 21, at Paul's Meeting, Taunton, by the Rev. W. Guest, Mr. F. E. Pike, third son of Mr. J. B. Lee Pike, Sidmouth, to Louisa, eldest daughter of Mr. J. C. Musgrave, Pyrland, and widow of the late Mr. Robert Were, of Tiverton, Devon.

CHRISTIE—HASLER.—May 27, at the Congregational chapel, Bocking, Essex, by the Rev. S. Clarkson, Joseph Lane Christie, of London, to Anna Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Mr. William Hasler, of Braintree.

SUGDEN—BROOK.—May 27, at Horton-lane Chapel, Bradford, by the Rev. James R. Campbell, D.D., Mr. Joseph Sugden to Miss Sarah Brook, both of Wike.

ROBERTS—LEE.—May 29, at Norwood Chapel, Liverpool, by the Rev. J. Shillito, Mr. John Roberts, Wybunbury Grange, Cheshire, to Martha, eldest daughter of Mr. Lee, Bank Farm, Malpas, Cheshire.

BROWN—HARRISON.—May 29, at Eccleston Chapel, Eccleston-square, Pimlico, by the Rev. J. Spencer Pearseall, Henry Brown, Esq., to Emily, youngest daughter of William C. Harrison, Esq., of Sutherland-place, Pimlico. No cards.

FAIRE—KIRBY.—June 1, at Charles-street Chapel, Leicester, by the Rev. T. Lomas, Joseph Louis, eldest son of Mr. W. L. Faire, to Clara, youngest daughter of Mr. James Kirby, both of Leicester.

CLAY—CLAY.—June 1, at Ebenezer Independent chapel, Dewsbury, by the Rev. James Collier, of Highfield, Earlsheaton, George, eldest son of Richard O. Clay, Esq., of Earlsheaton, to Catherine Harriet, youngest daughter of Benjamin Clay, Esq., of Carr Lodge, Dewsbury.

BATCHELOR—HALL.—June 1, at East-parade Chapel, Leeds, by the Rev. E. R. Conder, M.A., Mr. John S. Batchelor, to Mary, eldest daughter of W. Hall, Esq., Mount Preston, Leeds.

WRIGHT—CROSSLERY.—June 1, at Square-road Congregational Church, Halifax, by the Rev. William Roberts, assisted by the Rev. Enoch Mellor, M.A., of Liverpool, J. Hodgson Wright, Esq., of Halifax, to Lilly, elder daughter of John Crosley, Esq., of Manor Heath.

BAILEY—COLPAS.—June 1, at Above Bar Chapel, Southampton, by the Rev. Thomas Adkins, William Edward, eldest son of Mr. James Bailey, of Southampton, to Lucy Catharine, only daughter of the late Mr. Thomas Colpas, of Bishop's Waltham.

GRACEY—BIGG.—June 1, at the Metropolitan Tabernacle, Newington, by the Rev. G. Rogers, the Rev. David Gracey, Classical Tutor of the Rev. C. H. Spurgeon's College, to Mary Nelson, eldest daughter of James Bigg, Esq., of Tulsehill and Parliament-street. No cards sent.

KNIGHT—UNDERHILL.—June 1, at Regent's-park Chapel, by the Rev. J. Hayden, William Duncan, son of W. Knight, Esq., of Stanley-crescent, Kensington-park West, to Agnes, daughter of E. B. Underhill, LL.D., of Camden-square, N.W.

HAYNES—SELLERS.—June 1, at Cannon-street Chapel, Birmingham, by the Rev. Isaac Lord, Mr. Timothy Haynes, to Elizabeth, youngest daughter of Mr. H. Sellers, Berner-street, Lozells.

CLARKSON—BARRADELL.—June 1, at London-road Chapel, Leicester, by the Rev. R. W. McAll, Mr. David Clarkson, to Miss Mary Anne Barradell.

EDWARDS—CLAYTON.—June 1, at the Independent chapel, Green Hammerton, Yorkshire, by the Rev. W. William Daniell, Thomas, the eldest son of the late Henry Edwards, Esq., of Birryst, near Huddersfield, to Susannah, the third daughter of Mr. William Clayton, Ivy House, Boroughbridge.

SMITH—DAVY.—June 3, in the Baptist chapel, Sutton-in-Craven, Yorkshire, by the Rev. W. E. Archer, Joshua, eldest son of Mr. John Smith, Margaret, daughter of Mr. Dennis Davy, all of Sutton.

MONEY—MOORE.—June 6, at the Congregational church, Hastings, by the Rev. James Griffin, the Rev. William Money, of Plymouth, to Susannah, third daughter of George Moore, Esq., M.D., of Hastings.

DEATHS.

SMITH.—May 23, at North Ferriby, in her seventy-fifth year, Elizabeth, wife of Mr. John Smith, and daughter of the late Rev. W. Tapp, of South Cave, Yorkshire.

GILL.—May 31, in her eightieth year, after many years of painful infirmity, Jane, the wife of William Gill, senior, Hoxton.

Markets.

CORN EXCHANGE, LONDON, Monday, June 5.

With continued fine weather, the trade for all kinds of grain remains slow. The supply of wheat from the near counties this morning was small, for which the prices of last Monday were obtainable, but not readily. Foreign wheat is without alteration in value, and the demand is quite in retail. The trade for barley is dull, and prices the same as last week. Beans and peas sell on the terms of Monday last. Although the arrivals of foreign oats since last Monday have been much smaller than for several weeks preceding, still they are quite sufficient for the present demand. The trade to-day for this article has participated in the general dullness, and the prices of this day week are with difficulty supported.

CURRENT PRICES.

WHEAT—	Per Qr.		Per Qr.	
	s.	d.		
Essex and Kent, red, 1863 .. .	38	to 41	Grey .. .	34 to 36
Ditto 1864 .. .	32	42	Maple .. .	36 59
White, 1863 .. .	41	47	White .. .	34 38
1864 .. .	43	48	Boilers .. .	37 40
Foreign red .. .	38	42	Foreign, white .. .	30 33
" white .. .	42	52	RYE .. .	26 28
 BARLEY—			OATS—	
English malting .. .	—	—	English feed .. .	17 22
Chevalier .. .	—	—	" potatoe .. .	23 26
Distilling .. .	25	28	Scotch feed .. .	18 22
Foreign .. .	20	30	" potatoe .. .	22 26
 MAIL—			Pale .. .	18 21
Pale .. .	51	61	Irish black .. .	18 21
Chevalier .. .	60	62	" white .. .	19 21
Brown .. .	47	51	Foreign feed .. .	18 23
 BRANS—			FLOUR—	
Ticks .. .	33	35	Town made .. .	37 40
Harrow .. .	35	38	Country Marks .. .	2 32
Small .. .	38	44	Norfolk & Suffolk	27
Egyptian .. .	35	37		
 BREAD.—				
The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 6d to 7d; household ditto, 5d to 6d.				

METROPOLITAN CATTLE MARKET.

MONDAY, June 5.—The total imports of foreign stock into London, last week, amounted to 15,911 head. In the corresponding week in 1864, we received 8,701; in 1863, 5,778; in 1862, 5,323; in 1861, 7,549; in 1860, 19,231; 1859, 3,111 head. There was a large supply of foreign stock on sale here to-day, in, for the most part, fair condition. Sales progressed slowly, at about previous quotations. The arrivals of beasts fresh up from our own grazing districts were only moderate for the time of year; but the quality of most breeds exhibited an improvement compared with Monday last. The beef trade was inactive, and the currencies had a drooping tendency. The best Scots and Crosses sold at 4s. 10d. to 5s. per 8 lbs. A few good grass-fed beasts were on sale from Lincolnshire in good condition. The arrivals from Scotland were very prime. From Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Cambridgeshire, we received 1,500 Scots, Crosses, &c.; from other parts of England, 500 of various breeds; from Scotland, 818 Scots and Crosses; and from Ireland, 60 oxen. Including the foreign arrivals, the show of sheep was moderately good, and of fair average quality. All breeds met a slow inquiry, at about stationary prices. The top figure for down and half-breds was 6s. 2d. per 8 lbs. The supply of lambs was rather limited. The trade was, therefore, steady, at full quotations, viz., from 4s. 4d. to 7s. 8d. per 8 lbs. A few very prime lambs realised 8s. per 8 lbs. Calves were in moderate supply and fair request, at late rates. The highest quotation was 5s. 2d. per 8 lbs. Prime small pigs were rather dearer. Otherwise, the pork trade was steady, at full quotations.

Per Sls. to sink the offal.

s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.		
Inf. coarse beasts, 3	6	to	3	10	Prime Southdown	6	0	6	2
Second quality .. .	4	0	4	4	Lambs .. .	6	4	7	8
Prime large oxen .. .	6	4	8	8	Lge. coarse calves .. .	4	2	4	8
Prime Scots, &c. .. .	4	10	5	0	Prime small .. .	4	10	5	2
Coarse inf. sheep .. .	4	4	8	8	Large hogs .. .	3	8	4	4
Second quality .. .	4	10	5	4	Neatsm. porkers .. .	4	6	5	0
Pr. coarse woolled .. .	6	5	10						
<i>Suckling calves, 19s. to 22s.; and quarter-old store pigs, 20s. to 27s. each.</i>									

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL, Monday, June 5.

Very moderate supplies of town and country-killed meat are on sale at these markets to-day. The trade generally is firm, at our quotations.

Per Sls. by the carcase.

s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.				
Inferior beef .. .	3	6	to	3	10				
Middling ditto .. .	4	0	4	2	Inf. mutton .. .	4	4	4	10
Prime large do. .. .	4	4	6	6	Middling ditto .. .	5	0	5	4
Do. small do. .. .	4	8	4	10	Prime ditto .. .	5	6	5	8
Large pork .. .	3	8	4	6	Veal .. .	4	0	5	0
					Lamb, 6s to 7s 0d.				

COVENT-GARDEN, SATURDAY, June 3.

Supplies, both of home-grown and continental produce, have greatly increased in quantity since our last report. Outdoor strawberries from the west of England are arriving in large quantities, but they are not very good in quality. English peaches have quite taken the place of foreign ones. The importation of cherries has commenced, and prices for them vary from 1s. to 2s. per lb. Grapes and pine apples are sufficient for the demand. Cob nuts fetch from 5s. to 6s. per 100 lbs. Lemons fetch from 2s. to 3s. per 100. Asparagus is still well supplied, as is also broccoli, of excellent quality. Good new kidney potatoes fetch from 4s. to 6s. per dozen pounds. Flowers chiefly consist of orchids, heaths, azaleas, pelargoniums, mignonette, and roses.

P


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